The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1886.

The Week.

THE attempted mediation of the Governors in the Missouri-Pacific strike seems to have as yet led to no result. At all events the strikers have not, up to this date, taken their advice to accept Vice-President Hoxie's offer to let bygones be bygones, and take back into the service of the company all strikers who have not been guilty of doing damage to property. At this moment things in Texas are in a worse condition than ever, since the strikers, as the strain on their resources increases, are evidently more and more disposed to resort to violence. A masked mob has overpowered the guards and "killed" the engines at Denison, and at Omaha a freight train which escaped from the station was pursued and brought back by force. To this complexion it was pretty sure to come at last. The position taken by the Knights is, in fact, one which cannot be maintained in any community without violence. No man not a Knight can be won over to it by argument simply. The right of another man to stay in your employment on his own terms, or, in other words, the right of trades unions to billet laborers on any one they select for as long as they please, which is now the central doctrine of the labor gospel, is one which civilized communities will no more accept peaceably than they will accept the Koran and the Mormon Bible. It is aggravated, too, by the right, which the Knights also claim, of obstructing highways and damaging property in one part of the country in order to aid them in having their way in the settlement of disputes in another.

If the railroad corporations—whose defects, as owners of property, we see as clearly as any one—think they can escape this trouble by surrender now, they are greatly mistaken. We have seen enough to know that the Knights are in the hands of men who do not know what moderation is, and who are utterly indifferent to the general welfare, and probably hardly understand it, and who will be emboldened by every success to make new and more intolerable demands. The railroads might just as well push this question to a settlement this year as any other. What is needed most of all just now is a thorough comprehension by the American people of the nature and extent of the danger with which the labor question, in the form in which the Knights are presenting it, is threatening their civilization. They did not revolt against George III. for quartering soldiers on them in time of peace, in order to allow Mr. Powderly to quarter vast bodies of Knights on them, on terms fixed by him and for indefinite periods. An employer who gets a Knight on his hands, literally does not know from day to day how long he will have to keep him, or what he will have to pay him, or whether he will not eat him out of house and home, and break his furniture before he leaves.

The reply of Mr. H. M. Hoxie to Mr. T. V. Powderly's request for a conference to arrange terms of adjustment with the Knights of Labor on the Missouri-Pacific Railroad clarifies the situation in the Southwest in a remarkable manner. The central fact that a strike was ordered on the Missouri-Pacific because something had happened on another road not controlled by the Missouri-Pacific, and that all the misdemeanors and brigandage that have followed have had no cause in any difference or disagreement between the employing company and its employees, but have their origin in something as foreign to the parties as the changes of the moon, is stated so methodically and convincingly that Mr. Powderly in his rejoinder has no answer to make to it. He retreats under cover of some general observations regarding the goodness of his intentions, but does not deny Mr. Hoxie's statement that the strike is really a boycott, and that it is only a repetition, on a more extensive scale, of the attempted boycott of the Wabash Road at the time when that property was taken charge of by the United States Court.

The whole trouble in the Southwest may be traced to the boycott of the Mallory Steamship Company in the city of Galveston. The Mallory Company had a difficulty with its employees. The Knights of Labor, in order to force the company to reëmploy some discharged workmen—the rate of wages was not the subject of the dispute—issued orders intended to prevent the bringing of any goods to Galveston to be shipped by the steamships of this particular line. It was found to be impossible to discriminate between goods coming to Galveston for one purpose and for another. So the boycott was enlarged to the proportions of a blockade of the city. The sympathy of the public, as is usual in such cases, was extended to "the workingmen," this phrase being ingeniously applied to the minority of workingmen who were organized as boycotters; all other workingmen and women being, for the time, cast out of the reckoning. The Mallory Company made some concessions to the force of circumstances, upon which the Knights were enabled to claim a victory. This was to them a demonstration of supreme power. It turned their heads completely. They fancied that they had only to swing the club of the boycott in order to dominate industry, society, the courts of law, and the Government of the United States. Their range of intelligence was as narrow as their demands were boundless, and both found a notable opportunity for exercise when the man Hall was discharged by the Receivers of the Texas-Pacific Road, for being absent without leave—that is, for staying away three days on a leave of absence for half a day. A demand was made for Hall's reinstatement and it was refused. A strike was ordered, together with a boycott of certain connecting roads to make the strike more effective.

The lengthy reply of the Knights to Governors Marmaduke and Martin and to Mr. Hoxie betrays a dawning sense of the weakness and indefensibleness of their position. They say, in the first place, that the two Governors came in as negotiators voluntarily—they were not asked by the Knights to take a hand in the fight. That is quite true. The chief executives of the two States whose business and industry have been deranged, and who may shortly be compelled to put all the machinery of law in motion to restore the broken communications, did take some pains to avoid this disagreeable duty, and they are now virtually accused of meddling with what did not concern them. This is a refreshing glimpse of the ideas that are uppermost in Assembly No. 101. Then we are told that the Governors are all wrong in saying Mr. Hoxie has lived up to the "agreement" of March, 1885, because there was no such agreement. What is called an agreement was simply a lot of pledges and promises made by Mr. Hoxie and posted up in public places. It signifies nothing that Mr. Hoxie kept his pledges, if there was no agreement on their part to do anything in consequence. Here is another glimpse at the future prosperity and well-being of a country dominated by a class whose whimsies are to be substituted in the place of acts of the Legislature and the decrees of courts. Finally, we are told that even if Mr. Hoxie's pledges and promises had amounted to an agreement, there was a dark design underneath it to destroy the Knights of Labor organization, and that Mr. Hoxie has been laboring insidiously to bring about the present strike, so that he might stop the operation of his own road and embarrass the business of three States, and thus excite public opinion against the Knights. This is such a manifest falsehood that no person endowed with common sense will waste breath in discussing it. The simple truth perceived through the whole mass of dark-lantern sophistry is that Assembly No. 101 of the Knights of Labor have, without cause or provocation, but in the exercise of an unbridled ambition, and with the intent to show their power, boycotted three States, and that now, being alarmed by evidences that they have aroused against themselves a public opinion hitherto favorable to them, they are inventing excuses for their conduct. It remains to be seen whether the people of those States are as much attached to their form of government as American citizens are commonly supposed to be, or whether they are disposed to try a new experiment, the attractive outlines of which are sketched in the reply of the Knights to Governors Marmaduke and Martin.

The United States Senate indulges Mr. Blair's love of notoriety too much. Last month it passed a bill providing for Federal aid to Southern education because his feelings would be hurt if the measure should be defeated in the upper branch, and the lower branch could be trusted to smother it. On Thursday it passed a bill, introduced by the same Senator, establishing a commission to report on the evils of the liquor traffic, and appropriating $10,000 for the Commission's expenses;

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the measure, according to an intelligent correspondent, being "allowed to pass the Senate with the knowledge that it never will be heard of in the House." Yet, with such encouragement to what may be called the profession, there are people who wonder that the number of "cranks" in this country appears to be on the increase.

Mr. Morrison introduced in the House on Tuesday a resolution which it is to be hoped that the Committee on Rules will speedily report back and the body adopt. It is in these words:

"Resolved, That it shall be in order, when any general bill or proposition to increase the rates or amounts of pensions, or to grant pensions to persons not previously entitled thereto by law, is under consideration, to amend the same so as to provide by taxation or otherwise for the payment thereof; but no such amendment shall be in order unless the net revenue provided for shall be thereby set apart for the sole purpose of paying such increased pensions."

With such a rule the demagogical member who proposed an amendment extending the limit of the arrears act, which involves the payment of two or three hundred millions of dollars, would have to accept the amendment of a level-headed member providing new methods of taxation to raise the money required. A worse blow could not be struck at the pension demagogues. It would be well, however, to broaden the scope of the resolution so that it will apply to all sorts of raids upon the public Treasury. Whenever anybody proposes to spend $50,000,000 on a ship-railway scheme, $77,000,000 on education in the States, or a hundred or two millions on some other job, let the rules provide that it shall be in order to amend by inserting in the bill a clause imposing the taxes required to provide the money. Blair bills, Eads ship-railway schemes, and the whole brood of gigantic raids upon the Treasury would speedily wilt away under the flood of light which would thus be turned upon their real meaning to the taxpayers.

Mr. Hemphill, of South Carolina, made a very strong speech on the silver question on Saturday. His statement of the effect of a fluctuating currency upon the interests of the cotton States and the cotton planters was extremely perspicuous and profoundly true. He showed how entirely at the mercy of the broker and the speculator the planter must be when he has no means of protecting himself against variations in the value of the two kinds of money in which the value of his product must be computed if silver becomes the monetary standard in this country. Four-fifths of the cotton crop is sold to foreign countries at gold prices. If it is bought at silver prices in this country, the buyer must protect himself against fluctuations in the value of silver, and all the errors in his computations will be in his own favor. The growers of cotton, tobacco, wheat, or any exportable article will be absolutely powerless to protect themselves against these exactions, which are, in fact, inherent in any traffic carried on with two measures of value. Mr. Hemphill also gave his opinion of the kind of service rendered to the laboring man by those who seek to pay his wages in "cheap dollars." The mystery of mysteries is that any laboring man should be such a fool as to admit that an eighty-cent dollar is good enough for him. Roast turkey and cranberry sauce for the capitalist, bran and potatoes for the laboring man, would be just as wise and quite as worthy of acceptance and adoption by the wage-workers of the country as the current saying, "Gold for the rich and silver for the poor."

In connection with the recent changes in the Civil-Service Commission at Washington, mention should be made of the appointment of Mr. W. L. Trenholm to the important position of Comptroller of the Currency. Mr. Trenholm was called to the Civil-Service Commission because the public service required a man of high principles and superior culture, representing the best type of Southern society, to fill one of the three places on the Board. He would undoubtedly have remained there, had not the resignation of Comptroller Cannon made a vacancy requiring, in addition to the foregoing qualities, a special acquaintance with financial studies, and a reputation as a sound thinker co-extensive with the section to which Mr. Trenholm belongs. A better selection could not have been made. Mr. Trenholm enters upon the discharge of his new duties at a time when the national banking system is approaching a crisis. The bond security of its circulating notes is being slowly but surely cut away, and the questions relating to its future existence, if it is to continue at all, are among the most perplexing that the Government will have to deal with. It is fortunate that the position of Comptroller of the Currency at such a time is filled by a man like Mr. Trenholm, who has the ear of that portion of the country most hostile to the national banks, and which would, perhaps, be glad to see the old State-bank system of the *ante-bellum* period revived.

The Hartford *Courant* is a Republican organ which is never disposed to take an unduly sanguine view of any Democratic action. When, therefore, it commends an appointment by the President to a responsible position, its words should command attention. The *Courant* says, regarding the disposition of sundry Republican organs to condemn the selection of Mr. Oberly, of Illinois, as a member of the Civil-Service Commission, on the ground that he has been in the past an active Democratic politician, that the same criticism was made when he was appointed Superintendent of Indian Education nine months ago, but that "in simple justice it must be said that he has demonstrated that his critics of last year were not well informed." The *Courant* goes even further, and volunteers this warm tribute to Mr. Oberly:

"His general management of the important work intrusted to him has been satisfactory. He has made an intelligent and efficient Superintendent, according to the testimony of those best informed on the subject. He has endeavored to correct evils which unquestionably existed, and, unless favorably misrepresented, he has made no effort to use the office for partisan or personal advantages. It is said to be because the President is pleased with the manner in which he has performed the duties of an important subordinate position that he has made him a Civil-Service Commissioner. Now that he has received the appointment it will be fair and just to defer condemnation until it is merited. He has ability enough to make a first-rate Commissioner, and possibly may be disposed to make a good record. Certainly there can be no gain in treating him unjustly simply because he is a Democrat and has been an active politician."

The example set by the law-abiding citizens of Portland, Oregon, on Wednesday week, ought to make a salutary impression upon the country. Fifteen hundred men, moved by a sense of their responsibility for republican government, met in pursuance of public notice, and resolved that they would dedicate their fortunes, and if necessary their lives, to the defence of law and order and the principles of common humanity. They then appointed a committee of fifteen to take immediate steps, in conjunction with the proper authorities, to put the community in a posture of effectual defence against the threatened attack of outlaws upon the Chinese. The hoodlums had assembled in mass meeting in an adjoining room for the purpose of overawing the friends of law and order, but the strength of the latter was so overwhelming and its spirit so determined that they contented themselves with boycotting the Portland *Oregonian* newspaper, whose resolute and persistent defence of the principles of American institutions, of liberty regulated by law, and of a common humanity, has been largely instrumental in keeping the sacred fires of public spirit alive in Portland. The example of the *Oregonian* is in fine contrast to that of certain newspapers which, a few days ago, were encouraging a mob to seize and overturn coal carts and grocery wagons to make barricades against the running of street cars in New York.

The Californians are beginning dimly to perceive that there are two sides to the Chinese question in its commercial, if not in what they stigmatize as its "sentimental," bearings. In Stockton the mob have been trying to get everybody to sign a petition for the abrogation of the treaty with China, and an attempt was made at one of their recent meetings to pass a vote of censure upon Mayor Welsh for having refused the use of his name. The *Independent*, a strongly anti-Chinese paper, is forced to denounce this movement as being "impudent as well as absurd." It appears that three-fourths of Stockton's flour is shipped to China, and would be without a market if the treaty with that nation were to be abrogated. "One of the counts in the indictment against the Chinese," says the *Independent*, "is that they do not spend money enough with white producers and manufacturers, yet here was a proposition to bring discredit upon one of white labor's best employers, because he would not sign a demand to stop the one important source of American money in return from China. Neither of Mr. Welsh's mills employs Chinese, but both are large employers of white labor, which is treated considerately and well paid." We must warn the Stockton *Independent* that it has an account to settle with the San Francisco *Post*. The latter newspaper, a fortnight ago, was insisting upon a break-off of all commercial relations with the Chinese, on the ground that "we are apparently doing a losing business with these people." Far be it from a "doctrinaire" jour-

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nal published in New York to decide when two such eminent anti-Chinese doctors differ so radically in their diagnosis and prescription.

The bill passed with such commendable promptness by both branches of the Legislature on Thursday, authorizing the sale of all street-railway franchises at auction hereafter, is an immense gain for reform. The Governor has signed it, and it goes into effect as a law immediately. All bargains between railway companies and the Aldermen which are unfulfilled, are thus declared "off." Not one of the franchises granted as a result of such bargains is worth a penny to anybody. The Aldermen henceforth will be able to command very small prices for their votes, since, even after their consent to a railway is given, the franchise must be sold at public auction. Governor Hill, in approving the Cantor bill, points out certain defects in it which must be remedied by supplemental legislation, as no time could be lost in the passage of the present bill if the game of the Aldermen with regard to other franchises was to be blocked. He draws attention to a curious piece of optimism on the part of Governor Cleveland, who thought it unnecessary to make the sale of franchises by auction compulsory instead of optional, on the ground that if the local authorities were determined "to cheat and defraud their constituents by refusing to put up a valuable franchise at auction, they must under this bill [the General Surface Street Railway Act] do it in the broad light of day, and with a brazenness and boldness that would find a way to evade the most carefully framed law." This is, however, exactly what the Aldermen did. They sold the franchise at 9 o'clock A. M. in the summer season, and with a publicity and éclat which showed they did not care what any one thought of the transaction.

Senator Daly's bill reducing the number of Aldermen to fifteen and requiring their election on a general ticket, the candidate receiving the highest vote to be President of the Board, is a good measure, and ought to be promptly passed by the Legislature. The arguments in its favor are obvious. The strongest one is that the proposed change would break up the constantly growing practice of nominating liquor-dealers for Aldermen. No party would venture to put a liquor-dealer on a ticket which was to be submitted to the whole city for election. There has been a great outburst of indignation over the Jaehne case, but there is no reason for surprise. With few exceptions there is not a member of the present Board who is at all fitted by character or experience for his position. It is entirely within the bounds of moderation to go further, and say that fully two-thirds of the present members are by character and experience totally unfitted for any position of trust. No reputable business man would have one of them in the smallest place of trust or responsibility in his establishment. Seven of them are liquor-dealers, and nearly all of them are companions of liquor-dealers and regular frequenters of gambling saloons. When Jaehne was wanted the other night, he was sought and found in a liquor store, as were three ex-Aldermen interviewed in the morning papers.

Mexico seems about to consider the question of Federal aid to education. The initiative has been given by the action of the Legislature of the State of Chiapas, asking the National Congress to pass a bill establishing in the various States schools for the education of the Indians. The idea has been caught up enthusiastically by a section of the press (especially the provincial press), is reported to be "favorably entertained" by the Government, and promises to be discussed among the important questions in the next session of Congress. The advocates of the plan are not slow to point to the precedent now set by the United States, and, indeed, are able to press the familiar arguments with a force altogether greater than that of our Senatorial debaters; for, with an equal poverty on the part of the States, the burden of illiteracy is far heavier, the part of the population for which help is invoked being at least three-fifths of the whole. The obvious objection of unconstitutionality will probably prove but a slight obstacle to the scheme, though a more serious difficulty would seem to threaten it in the bankrupt condition of the Federal Treasury. In these days of paternalism in government, however, it does not seem to require the existence of a tempting surplus to suggest an appeal to national aid.

The project of an international exposition in Mexico in 1892, submitted to the Government by the Associated Press of the City of Mexico, is the latest theme for newspaper comment. It is received with that jaunty self-confidence so characteristic of a Mexican discussing a grand idea, while the almost insuperable difficulties of detail, being still so remote, are overlooked. One would think that the conspicuous failure of the National Exposition at Orizaba, in 1882, would serve to retard somewhat a more ambitious attempt. It is possible that the underlying motive with the Mexicans is a desire to revenge or recoup themselves for their experience at New Orleans. Some very bitter things have been said by the Mexican press of the misrepresentations which induced their Government to incur so great an outlay to give their country a creditable appearance at an exposition which turned out to be little better than a provincial affair.

The news from England goes to show that the importance of Chamberlain's reported desertion of Gladstone has probably been greatly exaggerated. Chamberlain has not been gaining ground in public estimation during the last two years. On the contrary, he has been losing it. His economical plans during his last term of office led the business men to distrust his judgment and suspect him of demagogy. His attitude toward Mr. Gladstone more recently has led the Radicals to question his sincerity and disinterestedness. The chances are, therefore, that if he should abandon Gladstone at this crisis, he would simply take one more step toward his own political ruin. Moreover, however much the Whigs or timid Radicals may outwardly wriggle over Gladstone's Irish plans, the economic agencies, which are very powerful just now, are working in their favor. The owners of rented land both in Ireland and England—particularly the latter—and their creditors, are a very influential body, and this proposal to expropriate them is probably the last chance they will ever have of getting rid of worthless estates. They will therefore, however much they talk against Gladstone's schemes in public, probably secretly support them, and push them through the House of Lords, where the landed interest is all-powerful. They will be made all the more eager by the growing recognition of the fact, to which we have frequently called attention in these columns during the past six or seven years, and which English economists at last begin to see, that a large proportion of Irish land, like the land in New England and most of the Eastern States, will no longer yield rent. That is to say, it will support the man who tills it, but nobody else, neither a wage-paying farmer nor a gentleman landlord. The probabilities are, indeed, that, owing to American competition, a very large part of the island is now in this condition.

The protracted debates to which the various measures instituted by the Prussian Government for the further Germanization of Posen, West Prussia, and Upper Silesia have given rise in the German Reichstag and the Prussian Diet, render it clear that the task of the Government will be an exceedingly arduous one. Bismarck's historical dissertations on the subject—and he has indulged in these with his wonted unbridled frankness and rude unconcern—and the additional testimony of the Ministers Puttkamer and Gossler, not only show that the Poles in those provinces have hitherto triumphantly withstood the denationalizing pressure exercised against them by the governmental machine and the surrounding German populations, but that their methods and means of resistance are of a nature to baffle the most strenuous efforts. The intrinsic justice of their cause, the profound influence of religion the untiring propaganda of their clergy, the prestige of nobility, the charm of their language, the patriotic fervor of the Polish women, the cringing subserviency of Germans speculating on Polish patronage and custom—all these and similar subtle agencies combine to create a moral strength of more than merely defensive character. Bismarck and his associates pretend that the violent measures proposed, which the rest of the civilized world deems acts of international barbarism, worthy of Muravieffs and Potapoffs, are only processes of self-defence in the interest of German nationality and Prussian integrity. Russia has effectually applied such measures in Lithuania, Volhynia, and other portions of ancient Poland, but she had the advantage of acting upon mixed populations, of which the Lithuanian and Malo-Russian elements counterbalanced the properly Polish; and then she had also the gallows and Siberia to emphasize her decrees. Bismarck and his successors will have to deal with the purest portion of the Polish nation, and will be hampered by constitutional limitations and widespread sympathies which even German chauvinism will not be able to stifle or ignore.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, March 17, to TUESDAY, March 23, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE Senate on Wednesday passed the new Electoral Count Bill.

In the Senate on Thursday Mr. Van Wyck offered an amendment to the Edmunds resolutions, that all appointments in place of suspended men shall be considered in open session. This was defeated.

In the Senate on Monday afternoon Mr. Logan submitted the following resolution: "That the sessions of the Senate commonly known as executive sessions, so far as they apply to nominations, confirmations, or rejections, shall hereafter be held with open doors, and that a public record of the same shall be kept, the same as of legislative sessions." It was ordered printed.

Three Republican Senators and one Democratic Senator, members of the District Committee, voted on Monday in favor of reporting the nomination of Mr. James C. Matthews (colored), of Albany, to be Recorder of Deeds of the District, and three Democrats and one Republican voted against reporting it. Upon this tie vote an adverse report was ordered. The affirmative votes were those of Ingalls, Pike, and Palmer (Reps.), and Brown (Dem.). The negative votes were those of Blackburn, Vance, and Harris (Dems.), and Riddleberger (Rep.).

Mr. George Hearst has been appointed United States Senator in place of the late Senator Miller by Governor Stoneman, of California. He is a man of wealth, connected with a leading mining firm, and a mining prospector of recognized authority. He was a candidate for Governor before the Convention which nominated Governor Stoneman, and received considerable support for Senator when Mr. Stanford was elected.

Pension Commissioner Black on Thursday submitted to the House Committee the names and numbers in twenty cases which he said had been allowed or rejected under Commissioner Dudley on account of the politics of the claimants. He said he would furnish in addition 300 or 400 affidavits, when the Committee should have examined the list, in support of his allegation that the Pension Office had been conducted as a political machine.

The House Judiciary Committee has finally agreed upon a bill which is designed to correct one of the greatest evils of the present system of legislation. It proposes to relieve Congress of the great burden of private legislation by giving the United States district and circuit courts equal jurisdiction with the Court of Claims, to amounts of $10,000, in all suits against the Government.

The House Committee on Elections on Friday decided the Hurd-Romeis (Ohio) contested election case in favor of the sitting member, Mr. Romeis. Mr. Hurd thinks the House will give him the seat.

The House Committee on Shipping on Monday, by a vote of 7 to 6, instructed Representative Dunn to report favorably his Free Ship Bill, with an added section authorizing the entry free of duty of materials used in the construction of ships. All the Republican members voted against the bill, and all the Democrats except one in favor of it.

Something of a sensation was produced in the House of Representatives on Monday, when the Chaplain devoted his opening prayer to an invocation to God to rid the land of gamesters, whether in cards, dice, chips, stocks, wheat, bucket-shops, or boards of trade, and to lead the people to know that money-making other than by the sweat of the face was contrary to His laws. On motion of Mr. Butterworth (Rep., O.), the prayer was ordered to be inserted in the *Record*.

The prospects of the Tariff Bill in the House are not encouraging. It is now proposed by Mr. Morrison and his associates to put wool on the free list, strike off the specific parts of the duties on woollen goods which the manufacturers could spare if there were no duty on wool, and strike out the sections putting all ores on the free list, and reducing the duties on metal goods, glass, and pottery. This proposition contemplates an abandonment of Ohio, and an effort to conciliate Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and secure the votes of Democratic members from those States.

Both houses of Congress have passed a bill giving the widow of General Hancock a pension of $2,000. It met with considerable opposition in the House, on the ground that General Hancock had long had a liberal salary, and that such pensions were an inducement to extravagant living.

The President has talked freely with Congressmen as to the Blair Educational Bill, and has impressed some of them with the belief that he does not think the measure constitutional.

The Secretary of the Treasury on Monday issued a call for $10,000,000 3 per cent. bonds of the issue of 1882.

There is a rumor that Mr. Trenholm, as Comptroller of the Currency, will interfere with the operations of the Louisiana Lottery Company, so far as they have been conducted through the national banks.

General Schofield will be General Hancock's successor in command of the Division of the Atlantic.

The petition or bill of complaint in the suit brought by the United States Government to annul and vacate the Bell telephone patents was filed in the United States Circuit Court at Columbus, O., on Tuesday, by the District Attorney. It is a large pamphlet, showing that the ground-work of the action is the fraud alleged to have been practised by Alexander Graham Bell in obtaining his patents by the connivance of persons holding official position in the United States Patent Office, and by misrepresentations made in his behalf.

Governor Murray, of Utah, has resigned. The Gentile press are indignant that this action should have been requested.

The Receiver of the Texas and Pacific Railroad agreed on Thursday with the Knights of Labor to submit their dispute to arbitration.

On Friday Vice-President Hoxie, of the Missouri-Pacific Railroad, replied to Mr. Powderly, of the Knights of Labor, that he would not meet him and a committee to arrange the questions about the strike, because of the frequent annoyances the company had experienced at the hands of the trade organizations in the last eight months. This lessened the chances of a settlement, but Governor Marmaduke of Missouri and Governor Martin of Kansas decided that public interest rendered it necessary for them to endeavor to act as mediators in the strike. They prepared a proposition which was accepted by the strikers, and left on Friday night for St. Louis to lay it before the railroad officials. The men agreed to return to work on the terms of agreement in force at the time they struck, simply making a request that the question of increasing wages of bridge and trackmen be taken into account. The matter of Hall's reinstatement on the Texas and Pacific was not mentioned. Vice-President Hoxie said that the agreement entered into with the men on March 15, 1885, would be accepted by him, with the following provisions: That all parties who have entered the service of the Missouri-Pacific Railway Company since March 5, 1886, would be retained, and that men of families and who had homes would be given the preference; that no one who had participated in the destruction of the company's property, or who directed such destruction, would be reinstated; and that on account of the strike he should not require as many men to perform the work as were employed before the strike occurred. These terms the men promptly rejected.

Early on Sunday morning, ten watchmen at the round-house at Denison, Texas, were seized by 150 masked men, who disabled all the engines and did serious damage to other property in the shops. A Missouri-Pacific freight train which was started out of Omaha on Sunday afternoon was pursued by Knights of Labor on an engine and compelled to return. An attempt to start a similar train from St. Louis on Tuesday was defeated, the coupling pins being drawn every time a start was made. A train started from Sedalia, Mo., on Tuesday, was thrown from the track and four men were badly hurt. New developments of the trouble were the strike of all the switchmen at Kansas City, Mo., on Monday, and a general strike of all the coal miners in the fourth district of Pennsylvania.

One of the results of the transcontinental railroad war is the shipment of apples, potatoes, and onions from Chicago to California. Apples are not grown successfully in that State.

At a meeting of presidents of the coal roads in this city on Monday, a harmonious arrangement was made by which prices are increased 25 cents a ton, and the total allotment for the coming year fixed at 33,500,000 tons.

The San Francisco Chinese are taking advantage of the low railroad rates, and are coming East in large numbers.

Anti-Chinese mass-meetings were held throughout California on Saturday night.

Ten negroes were killed and three fatally injured by an armed band of fifty white men at the Court-house in Carrollton, Miss., on Wednesday. Several weeks ago a young lawyer of Carroll County had been slightly wounded by three negroes. The case was on trial when the white men rode up and killed the negroes.

The Massachusetts House on Wednesday defeated the biennial-election resolution by a vote of 112 to 86, not the necessary two-thirds.

The "no-tobacco" rule went into effect at the Concord, Mass., Reformatory on Monday. The 600 prisoners accept the situation philosophically.

The Connecticut Legislative Committee on Woman Suffrage voted on Wednesday 7 to 1 in favor of a bill allowing women to vote in school-district meetings without any property qualification.

Governor Hill, of New York, has appointed five ladies notaries public.

Alderman Henry W. Jaehne, of this city, was arrested on Thursday charged with bribery in connection with the Broadway Railroad franchise. He has confessed, it is alleged, that he received $20,000 for voting in favor of the Broadway franchise.

Hamilton Cole, Referee in the action brought by George C. Holt, the assignee for the benefit of the creditors of Ferdinand Ward, against William S. Warner, filed his report with the Clerk of the Supreme Court on Wednesday morning. It finds that the payment of all money made by Ward upon the so-called contract business was fraudulent and void as against the defendant, Julien T. Davies, as receiver, and that Warner must pay over to Davies, as receiver, all moneys received by him from Ward over and above the amount paid by him to Ward. This sum the Referee finds to be $1,255,361 34, which, with interest thereon from May 6, 1884, $140,391 20, makes the total amount to be recovered $1,395,752 54.

The Rev. Thomas Parry, of the Jefferson Park (Chicago) Presbyterian Church, delivered a sermon Sunday night in the line of thought of the "two Sams." He applauded the vigorous style of the evangelists Jones and Small, and said he felt the beneficial effects of their work in his own church.

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Severe thunder storms have prevailed during the week in different parts of the country, accompanied by loss of life. On Sunday the severest snow storm of five years occurred in Iowa, and there was also a heavy fall of snow in Maine.

General John H. Devereaux, one of the most prominent railroad men in the West, died in Cleveland on Wednesday at the age of fifty-four. He was born in Boston, became a civil engineer, and early achieved a reputation in railroading.

Miss Abigail Bates died at Scituate, Mass., on Wednesday, aged eighty-nine years. She was one of the two women who, during the war of 1812, drove the British forces from this harbor by concealing themselves in the bushes and playing vigorously upon the fife and drum, thereby leading the enemy to believe that a large force was ready to receive them. This, at least, has been the cherished local tradition.

FOREIGN.

Mr. Robert Bannatyne Finlay (Liberal) moved in the House of Commons on Wednesday the second reading of his Church of Scotland Bill. This opposes disestablishment, and favors such reform of the Church as would practically amount to reconstruction. It aims at removing all those obstacles which now exist to a reunion of the Free Church and the United Presbyterian with the Established Church. The Scotch Radicals and Parnellites vigorously opposed it, and it was rejected by 207 to 177.

Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon, declined to recommend to the Queen the appointment of a day for national humiliation and prayer because of the distress prevalent among the poor and unemployed of the kingdom. The Premier said that bad as the distress was, it did not justify the action proposed.

In the House of Commons on Friday Mr. Gladstone said that during the coming week he hoped to be able to name a day for presenting his statement of Irish proposals. The statement would probably be followed by a bill to carry his plans into effect. He asked that the members exercise caution in regard to rumors about dissensions in the Cabinet and alleged features of his Irish plans.

Sir William Vernon-Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to Mr. Goschen in the Commons on Monday, said the Government was not disposed to appoint a special committee to examine into and report upon the silver question, because the special commission which was now inquiring into the causes of the depression of trade would in all probability cover the silver question.

The House of Commons on Tuesday night, by a vote of 216 to 176, adopted a motion in favor of local taxation falling partly upon the owners of landed property instead of upon the occupiers only, as the law now stands. Mr. Chamberlain urged that the motion be withdrawn, as the Government was preparing a bill to equalize taxation.

John Bright had an interview on Saturday with Mr. Gladstone. It is believed that Mr. Bright strongly protested against the Premier's Irish expropriation scheme.

The latest report from London about Mr. Gladstone's home-rule scheme is that he does not intend to ask authority to issue a loan in order to secure funds to buy out the real-estate owners of Ireland, but that he proposes the appointment of a commission of experts to fix the value of the various land properties in Ireland, which at these valuations are to be handed over to the possession of the Government in exchange for consols. In this way Ireland is to be made a debtor to the empire for the entire amount paid to the landlords, together with interest, the whole sum to be repaid into the Imperial Treasury by Ireland in instalments within the term of fifty years, at the end of which term the lessees are to become the owners. This necessarily involves home rule.

Mr. E. Dwyer Gray, M. P., presiding at a St. Patrick's Day banquet in London on Wednesday night, said that Irishmen wished to legislate for themselves in their own country, and would loyally accept any measure giving them that privilege, thus benefiting both countries instead of endangering the empire.

Sir James Caird, as great an authority on agricultural questions as Mr. Giffen is on finance, writes to the London *Times* opposing land purchases, on the ground that the good land is not worth buying because the landlords are quite able to take care of themselves, and the bad land is not worth buying because nobody can get rent out of it. The letter contains the following highly significant sentence: "If the present prices of agricultural produce continue, I should fear that from the land held by the large body of poor farmers in Ireland any economical rent has for the present disappeared. The purchase of it at any price would therefore be a certain loss." The *Times's* editorial on the letter says: "It is not too much to say that the rental of 528,000 holdings is practically irrecoverable by anybody, whether landlord, English Government, or Irish Government."

The Duke of Argyll has written a remarkable letter to the London press. Writing as one of the chief landlords, he points out in detail how every important measure in Parliament thus far, whether for or against the Government, has been solely carried by the Parnell vote. His conclusion evidently is that the Irish-Americans rule Great Britain.

The Paris *Journal des Débats* says that Russia refuses to join the other Powers in coercing Greece to comply with Turkey's policy in the Balkan States. The press of Bulgaria denounce the Russian policy of opposition to Prince Alexander, and declare that it will be impossible to separate the Prince from the Bulgarian nation. The Russian Consul at Philippopolis, the capital of Eastern Rumelia, has expressed a wish that the politicians of the country refrain from using the Czar's name or that of his Government for any political purpose whatever during the coming Rumelian elections.

The Bulgarian Government has suspended all the Russophile newspapers within its territory, and caused the arrest of thirteen Conservative leaders who are partisans of M. Zankoff, formerly Prime Minister of Bulgaria. A warrant was issued for M. Zankoff, but he escaped arrest by placing himself under the protection of the Russian Consul at Sophia. The Bulgarian Government will continue to use every means in its power to put an end to the Russophile agitation.

A London despatch says: "The situation in Greece is not a whit more, but rather less, pacific; all available troops have been summoned, generals are en route for the frontier, the fleet has sailed with sealed orders, and the cavalry is ordered to Thessaly. The statement has been made, denied, and reaffirmed that Russia has refused to be a party to the coercion of Greece. Servia has concluded a fresh contract for 10,000,000 cartridges in Austria, with the consent of the latter. The condition of the interior of Turkey is said to be deplorable. The country is denuded both of men and money. Every Cabinet in Europe may be described as waiting for something to turn up. It is impossible to see what this something can be except blows."

The French Chamber of Deputies has adopted the bill authorizing the city of Paris to issue a loan for the construction of public works to furnish labor to the needy unemployed, on the condition that nothing but French material be used in the works.

One of the wolf-bitten Russians, who was treated by M. Pasteur in Paris to prevent rabies, has died in great agony, with all the symptoms of hydrophobia.

The parade of unemployed Socialists in Liége, the iron-manufacturing centre of Belgium, on Thursday evening resulted in disorderly demonstrations. A mob composed of Socialists and the lowest classes of the people took possession of many of the streets, shouting, "Down with the capitalists!" They wrecked all the cafés and sacked all the shops in the Rue Leopold. The gendarmes finally attacked the mob, and after a severe fight, in which many of the rioters were wounded, succeeded in clearing the streets and restoring order. Several hundred Socialists were placed under arrest. The riots broke out afresh on Saturday night in Liége and also in other Belgian towns. A severe fight occurred near Liége with anarchists, who were marching against the town to loot it, and they were defeated. 6,000 troops are on duty in the disturbed district.

General Appert, the French Ambassador to Russia, has received letters of recall, and will leave St. Petersburg in two weeks. When General Appert has left Russia Baron Mohrenheim, the Russian Ambassador to France, will transfer his residence from Paris to Cannes, or perhaps just beyond the French frontier, in order to mark Russia's disapproval of the reasons of General Appert's recall.

The exodus of Jews from Russian Poland has attained extraordinary figures. During last year 20,150 left the country for America alone.

The Emperor William's health is pronounced restored. He received warm congratulations on Monday, the eighty-ninth anniversary of his birthday

The Right Rev. Dr. Kopp, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Fulda, has been instructed by Cardinal Jacobini, Papal Secretary of State, to obtain the largest concessions possible from the German crown in the new Ecclesiastical Bill, but to do nothing which will endanger the success of the measure, the passage of which, the Cardinal says, even unaltered, will be a distinct gain for the Vatican.

Leopold Zunz, the distinguished Jewish scholar of Berlin, is dead at the age of ninety-two.

A coalition has been formed in Spain, for the defence of the Republican cause, of all the sections of the Republican party—the Castelar group excepted. The coalition accepts the Constitution of 1869 as the basis of its programme until the Cortes has decreed a better constitution.

Marie Heilbron, the opera singer, died at Nice on Sunday.

Christine Nilsson is to make a "final tour" of America.

The British expedition to relieve Yemethen, in Burmah, has been successful.

Sir John A. MacDonald, the Canadian Premier, is seriously ill.

Mail advices from the Sandwich Islands received on Tuesday state that the volcanic phenomena which extended over March 5, 6, and 7, and which were accompanied by a large number of earthquake shocks, resulted in the total disappearance of the new lake at Halemaumau and in the extinction of the fire in the crater of the volcano of Kilauea. These phenomena are believed to be the precursors of a grand outbreak in the near future, either in Kilauea or Mauna Loa. Some persons, basing their views on the observations of Professor Agassiz, believe that the disappearance of fire is a prelude to the total extinction of Kilauea volcano.

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"THE PAPERS."

It is not too much to say that the bottom was completely knocked out of the discussion in the Senate on the "papers" question, on Friday week, by the powerful speech of Mr. Kenna, of West Virginia. His citation of counter precedents and authorities in support of the President's position was particularly effective. When the House of Representatives asked President Washington for "the correspondence and other documents" relating to the treaty then just concluded with Great Britain, he declined to furnish them, on the ground that the papers "were not relative to any purpose under the cognizance of the House" except that of impeachment, to which no allusion had been made in the resolution. When the Senate asked President Jackson for "a paper purporting to have been read by him to the heads of departments" relating to the transfer of the deposits, Jackson declined compliance, under "a proper sense of his own self-respect and of the rights secured by the Constitution to the executive branch of the Government." Under President Tyler, the Secretary of War sent to the Senate at its request the letter dismissing one Sylvester, but declined to send any other papers, on the ground that they were of "a confidential character." In 1849, under the Presidency of Taylor, the Senate called for

"all charges which have been preferred or filed in any of the departments against individuals who have been removed from office since the 4th day of March last, with a specification of the cases, if any, in which the officers charged have had an opportunity to be heard, and a statement of the number of removals made under each department."

The resolution was opposed by Daniel Webster as follows:

"Since the practice [of removal] has become a settled practice, since every administration has indulged in it, and since it must now be considered as the legal construction of the Constitution, that it is one of the powers of the President to remove incumbents from offices which they hold, it follows, as a necessary and as an inevitable consequence, that this power, thus legally vested in the President, must be exercised by him as independently of our control as any other power that is to be exercised by him under the Constitution. If he holds the power, he holds it to be exercised at his own control and discretion. And I see no ground upon which we can call upon him to give us reasons for the manner in which he exercises that power, any more than we can call upon him to give reasons for the manner in which he exercises any other power under the Constitution. . . ."

Mr. Kenna produced one other very curious bit of documentary evidence as to the practice and opinion of Webster's day on this subject—namely, forms prepared in the Department of State, when Webster was Secretary, to be used in answering just such inquiries as have been addressed to President Cleveland. There is no proof that these forms were ever used, but here they are:

"SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the ——, desiring me to send you the papers on file relating to the nomination of ——to be——.

"The letters accompanying this will be, I presume, very satisfactory testimonials of Mr. ——'s fitness for the office; but I take occasion to say, that, in this Department, letters of this description, though usually communicated on request to the Senate or its committees, unless in peculiar cases there be reason for withholding them, are not considered as public letters, and, therefore, are not placed on the official files. When sent to the Senate, or its committees, they are understood to be sent in confidence, and it is expected that they will be returned when the occasion has passed.

"I am, sir, etc.

"To Hon. ——,
Chairman of the Committee on——of the Senate."

Another read as follows:

"Hon. —— ——,
Chairman of the Committee on —— of the Senate.

"Letters recommending individuals to office are not considered as official communications any more than verbal recommendations. They are not kept on the public files, and it has not always been the case heretofore, as I learn, that they have been preserved. So far as may be proper, however, it will give the Department great pleasure to afford the Committee any information in its possession. I send you several communications respecting the persons mentioned in your letter, which, when examined by the Committee, I will thank you to cause to be returned."

In 1874, too, when the Democrats got possession of the House of Representatives once more, after many years of exclusion, they began to ask General Grant in what place he performed the duties of his office. He answered, with the applause of the whole country, that he was not bound to give them "an account of his discharge of appropriate and purely executive offices, acts, and duties, either as to when, where, or how performed."

Mr. Kenna reserved to the last the most instructive and, we might add, the most entertaining of his examples. The person who even more than Mr. Edmunds started this longing in the Senate for "papers" relating to removals and appointments was the Honorable John Sherman, of Ohio. He made a great speech on the subject at the opening of the debate, in which he said:

"That we have a right to call for information of any kind whatever in any department of the Government, whether it be by written order or by parol, I do not think there is the slightest doubt. Indeed, but for that we could not legislate; but for that we could not act wisely in executive session."

And, warming to his work, he added:

"The idea of a distinction between papers public and private in the public records never occurred until during the present Administration and to meet an exigency."

But when Mr. Sherman was Secretary of the Treasury in 1877, and Mr. Conkling asked for the papers in the case of the removal of Mr. Arthur, the Collector at this Port, Mr. Sherman wrote the following remarkable answer:

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
November 17, 1877.

"SIR: Your letter dated the 15th instant was received only this morning, and I take the earliest moment to reply to it.

"To answer in an official way the questions put to me, would not only compel me to violate that trust and confidence reposed in me by the President, necessary for the transaction of the business of this Department, but to disclose papers of a confidential character filed in the Department, and require me to enter into the discussion of questions totally immaterial to the nominations submitted to the Senate. I do not think it within the just limits of the intercourse of the Senate with executive officers to answer in writing, or even verbally, all the questions submitted by you, nor have I ever known such an instance.

"The President has the power to nominate to the Senate a proper person for Collector of the Port of New York, whether that office be already vacant or not, and it is within the power of the Senate to either confirm or reject.

"These are independent powers. No law requires the President to give the reasons for his nominations, and it does not appear that in this case the Senate even has directed this inquiry. The Tenure-of-Office Act required of the President the reasons of a suspension made during the recess of the Senate, but this provision, after a very brief period, was repealed. To answer your questions would compel me to state to a committee of the Senate the reasons of an appointment by the President, to disclose confidential communications between the President and the Secretary; and to enter into an arraignment and accusation of the officers superseded. In the free exercise of independent powers it is the common practice, as we both know, for members of the Senate to have full conference with the heads of executive departments on all matters in which the concurrent action of the President and the Senate is required, and therefore it will give me pleasure to confer with the Committee, or any member of it, on the subject of the fitness of the appointment of Mr. Roosevelt to the office of Collector of the Port of New York.

"It will also give me pleasure to furnish to you, or to the Committee on Commerce, or to any member of the Committee, in the usual way, the several reports of the Commission on the New York Custom-house, upon which mainly the action of the President was taken. As the investigation progressed, these reports made it of the highest public importance that a change should be made *in the leading officers of that service.* It was because abuses were thus developed that the President was convinced that it was incompatible with the public service to retain in their present positions the Collector and Naval Officer.

"The other cases mentioned by you under the same envelope will be governed by what is here stated, and with these limits I will be happy to confer with you or the Committee at your convenience. Very respectfully,

"JOHN SHERMAN, Secretary.

"Hon. ROSCOE CONKLING, Chairman Committee on Commerce, United States Senate."

The above, under the circumstances rather diverting, letter was disinterred by the Administration some weeks ago, and has been reserved until now as a final bucket of water for the extinction of this "burning question." Time was when its production would send its author to Europe for a few months; but the skin of public men is tougher now, and when their tergiversation is exposed, they simply smile and change the subject, as Mr. Sherman undoubtedly does. Nothing could better illustrate the insincerity and puerility of this debate.

The truth appears to be that whenever the Senate has been in harmony with the Executive, it has either not asked for papers, or has obtained them without difficulty, or has taken the refusal of them in good part. When, on the other hand, the Senate has for any reason got out of harmony with the Executive, it has almost invariably become clamorous for papers about offices, has demanded them with more or less vehemence, and sometimes has got them and sometimes not. The President, however, whether he gave them or did not give them, has always remained, and must always remain, master of the situation, for the simple reason that, in case of non-compliance, there is no remedy against him but impeachment. But it is also to be observed that there is no trace, in all the long history of this question, of any systematic desire on the part of the Senate to know the President's motives, in making either appointments or removals, for the purpose of improving the service. It has always been due either to a desire to "get even with him" for some failure to carry out his bargains, or to compel him to come to terms in some contemplated division of the spoils, or to some party purpose.

THE ANNULMENT OF CHARTERS.

MR. CARTER, in his argument before the Legislative Committee last week, protested strongly against the annulment of the charter of the Broadway Railroad on two grounds. One was that the interests created by the charter were property like any other property, and therefore

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sacred. The other was that, the practice of annulling charters once begun, it would be taken for a precedent, would be frequently resorted to or threatened, and thus not only put all rights created by a charter in constant peril, but would transfer the corruption of which we now complain in the Board of Aldermen, to the Legislature itself. In other words, we presume, money would be paid to induce the Legislature not to annul charters as it is now paid to the Aldermen to grant them.

All this, however, suggests but does not answer the question, why the power of regulating charters is reserved to the Legislature. What is the object or use of this power? What good purpose did those who reserved it expect to be served by it? The State, as represented by the Legislature, was surely not armed with it simply as an ornament or for the purpose of levying blackmail. It cannot have been intended simply to compel the holders of charters to work the railroads for which the charters are granted, because this is provided for otherwise. Charters of which no use is made can be forfeited by proceedings in the courts instituted by the Attorney-General. Why, then, does this power of repeal exist?

It exists, we take it, for the same purpose as all the other powers with which the Constitution arms the Legislature—for the same purpose as the Legislature itself exists—for the purpose for which charters are granted—the promotion of the public interest. Franchises are not bestowed in this or any other civilized country in order that a particular set of men may make money out of them, or that securities furnishing a convenient form of investment may be based on them, or, in other words, in order that they may become valuable property in the hands of a small number of persons. The prospect of making money out of them, or of basing securities on them, is undoubtedly what induces individuals to ask for them; but that, the franchise once granted, the State is bound not to interfere with the money-making, and is bound to see that it goes on undisturbed under all circumstances, is a doctrine which we believe no civilized State has yet adopted.

What the Legislature has to consider first and foremost in exercising any of its powers, the power of annulling charters among others, is the effect on the public welfare. In deciding whether it will take Sharp's franchise away from him or not, it ought, of course, to weigh the benefits of the proceeding against the advantages. This has to be done in nearly all legislative action. Hardly anything it does or can do is unmixed good. The interests of Sharp's bondholders, or of that comparatively small number of them—say $1,500,000 worth—who can be called "innocent holders," should undoubtedly not be overlooked, but no injury to them which the law allows should stand in the way of great benefit to the community at large. As a matter of fact, in this case, no injury need be worked to them at all. Their bonds can be readily paid out of the proceeds of a sale of the franchise at auction.

Now, what is the first duty of the Legislature in this matter of the Broadway Railway? It is to put a stop to what was called by one of the witnesses before the Committee, the "Aldermanic business"—that is, the business of selling franchises. The commoner and the longer established this business has been, the more solemn and imperative is the obligation resting on the Legislature to break it up. If it be true, as Jaehne is reported to have said, that the Aldermen have been paid for every railroad franchise granted in this city within twenty years; or even if it be true, as some of Sharp's apologists have said, that all franchises granted by any legislative body in this country now are paid for regularly by the grantees, the more needful is it that such action should be taken as will warn all persons applying for franchises and all persons investing money under them, that, as far as this State and city are concerned, they are not a good purchase, and that all money put into them runs the risk of being lost. It will never do in this community and this age to surrender to the notion that because an evil is great it is incurable, or that because it is of long standing there is no use in attacking it.

It is not the business of the Legislature to punish the individual bribers or bribed. That duty belongs to the courts or the police. But it is the duty of the Legislature, and its highest duty, to take such steps as may seem likely to be effective to stop or impede the practice of bribery, by making it unsafe and unprofitable. It was for just such purposes and emergencies as this that, in our opinion, the power of revoking charters was granted. It is not once in a hundred years, too, that so good a case for the exercise of this power offers itself as Sharp's case. It is a power which, as being liable, we grant, to great abuse, should never be exercised unless its justification be clear to the public eye. But a plainer case than Sharp's could not be asked for. The evidence, even if it be not sufficient to procure his conviction and that of his confederates before a court of justice, is abundantly sufficient for legislative action. His own confessions, and those of Kerr, Richmond, Foshay, and Hayes, coupled with the revelations made as to the sudden accessions of wealth at a certain period, of some of the Aldermen, are ample proofs of the use of money to procure the charter. No civilized government, we venture to affirm, having the power to strip Sharp of his spoils, would, in view of what is now known of his operations, fail to exercise it. Moreover, the very enormity of his corruption and its audacity furnish the best possible defence against the danger to which Mr. Carter points, that an attack on it may be converted into a precedent dangerous to honestly acquired franchises. Sharp's offence is so flagrant that we shall probably not for a hundred years see anything which could be made to look like it as an excuse for legislative interference with vested rights.

Finally, we would ask legislators to consider for one moment what the effect will be of allowing Sharp to get clean off with his 9,520 shares of stock, and his $788,000 of bonds, upon the generation which has been growing up since the civil war in this city, and which has learned to consider money the chief earthly good, its possession the one final proof of talent and success, and the purchasability of every public man and public body one of the fundamental facts of our social and political system. We heard a political observer of high standing maintain very recently that our Government was now so permeated with corruption that, in trying to effect any public improvement, one had to calculate on the venality of legislators as one of the essential conditions of the enterprise, like the hardness of rock or the weight of clay. Does any sane man suppose that this state of things, or rather this state of feeling on the part of good citizens, can continue indefinitely without danger to everything that is valuable in public or private life? Would it not, in view of it, be madness to allow men like Sharp and his confederates, not only to escape punishment for their misdeeds and to grow rich on them, but actually to erect a monument in our streets, both of their own successful villany and of the feebleness and corruption of the Government they thrive under?

THE WASTE OF TIME AT COURT.

The administration of justice in this city suffers under a multitude of abuses, most of which are perpetuated because it is for the pecuniary interest of some one to perpetuate them. But there is one most vexatious abuse which is apparently an exception to this rule. It is the compulsory attendance at court of a large number of people upon the bare possibility that their attendance may be necessary. This particular evil seems to involve no advantage to any one, and to be the object of the united execrations of both lawyers and clients. It is highly injurious to the business of lawyers, not only because it wastes a great deal of their time, but also because it deters their clients from invoking legal aid in procuring their rights. It is injurious to the general business of the community because it operates as a denial of justice. It destroys the satisfaction of victory by the enormous loss of time that it involves, and for the same reason it makes defeat more crushing. The bench and the bar, clients, witnesses, and jurymen, all groan under this affliction, and all are apparently equally helpless.

The abuse in question is an instance under the familiar law that institutions in their origin well adapted to their purposes may become grossly oppressive when changed circumstances have destroyed this adaptation. In former days, when communities were of moderate size and business was of moderate volume, a single court might without great inconvenience dispose of the cases at issue in any term by placing them all upon its calendar for a given day. Even now this probably remains true throughout the greater part of the land. The number of cases is not very large, so that in any event no one will suffer from prolonged delay. The attorneys are acquainted with one another's cases, and can calculate the probable course of things; and all parties, including judges, are generally in such intimate personal relations as to be compelled, even if not disposed, to be accommodating. But with the enormous calendars of the courts of this city such calculation and accommodation has become impracticable. Instead of a single

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court, with a calendar of a dozen or twenty cases for the term, there are, besides the City Court, three courts of nearly equal jurisdiction, each of which is divided into a number of parts. Each of these parts has upon its day calendar from twenty to forty cases, and each case involves the attendance of two attorneys or their clerks, and possibly three or four witnesses. It is no exaggeration to say that upon almost any morning of the term a thousand men are obliged to leave their business and make a journey to the court-house simply as a matter of precaution. It is very certain that not more than one hundred of the thousand will find that there is anything to be done but to wait for half an hour and then return; but, as it is impossible to determine whose presence will be required, it is not safe for any one to stay away.

If this vexatious experience were not too many times repeated, it might be tolerable; but it is not uncommon for a case to appear on the day calendar for weeks at a time, and it may be necessary to stand ready to go to trial upon any day during that period. When there are many witnesses, and especially when there are witnesses from out of town, the expense and inconvenience caused by this delay are almost inconceivable. Business men are usually reluctant to leave their own affairs and go to court to testify about matters in which they have no interest; and though it may be possible to overcome this reluctance upon one or two occasions, their patience is exhausted by demands too often repeated. Lawyers frequently do not summon their witnesses when they really ought to do so, because they are afraid of exasperating them even when willing, and, if unwilling, of losing them altogether. Hence they are often caught finally unprepared, although they may have been for weeks in a state of complete preparation, and must choose between two evils: they must either go to trial when they are not ready for it, or lose their chance for weeks or even months, only to have the same experience repeated. "Cases must be ready when reached" is the rule of the court, and though when a case is first called this rule is not rigidly applied, any further accommodation is a matter of chance or favor. Many judges seem to think it a fine thing to be severe in the application of this rule, regardless of the fact that their arbitrariness often condemns innocent parties to the loss of the labor of weeks, and not infrequently drives them to abandon their causes altogether.

The trial terms of our courts do not average more than five hours a day of actual session, and of this time nearly one-fifth is frequently taken up with the disposition of the calendar and procuring a jury. Arrangements ought to be made by which a part at least of this time should be saved, so that the actual trial of causes might begin before midday. A reform of this nature would do much to remedy the present delay of justice, but it would not go to the root of the evil. So long as the number of cases exceeds the capacity of courts to dispose of them, suitors must wait, and the rule "First come, first served" must apply. But it is certainly possible so to arrange matters that after a man has necessarily waited a year for his cause to be reached, he shall not unnecessarily be kept with his witnesses dancing attendance for weeks at the Court-house.

It would be absurd to deny that it is extremely difficult to devise a remedy for these abuses. The trouble is of a two-fold nature. It is impossible at present either to determine the time that cases will occupy in trial, or to know whether they will be ready when called. A case that will occupy weeks may come on at any time, and on the other hand twenty cases may melt away in as many moments. The remedy, therefore, must meet both these difficulties. There should be a classification of cases as they are put upon the calendar, according to the probable length of time that their trial will consume. Of course, only a rough estimate of this kind could be made; but that such an estimate is practicable appears from the existence of the "short cause" calendar, an institution that might well be constituted upon somewhat more enlightened principles than at present. Wherever possible the calendar clerk should be informed when a note of issue is filed whether the case will be ready for trial upon short notice or not, in order that there may be a supply of cases that can be drawn upon in an emergency. There should always be one judge unassigned, ready to hold a term for the trial of cases that were ready at their appointed time, but were crowded out of their regular place by unforeseen delays.

With these arrangements, it would become possible when a case was put upon the calendar to set it down for trial upon a particular date, no matter how far in the future. If at that date another case having priority was still on trial, the extra term could be resorted to. If on the other hand the calendar was cleared sooner than was calculated, the reserve of cases ready upon short notice could be called upon, or the judge could hold the extra term for the trial of cases that were ready and waiting. Immediate notice of the settlement of cases should be required and advertised, in order that the time thus set free might be claimed by those who wished to advance their suits, or by those whose places had been lost by accident or mistake.

Doubtless many improvements upon this remedy could be suggested by members of the bar, and it would obviously require calendar clerks of a high order of ability as well as of a certain degree of impartiality, and nowadays calendar clerks are changed according as Tammany or the County Democracy gets the upper hand. No doubt, also, many imperfections in the scheme would reveal themselves in practice. But no one can deny that something of this kind ought to be attempted, and that it ought to be attempted very soon. As we have suggested, there is no reason to expect opposition on the ground of pecuniary interest in the existing abuses, and on the other hand lawyers are losing a great deal of money by their continuance. If things remain as they are, it will soon become the general conviction of business men that it is better to let small claims go, no matter how just they may be, or how solvent the debtors, rather than to lose the time required to collect them by litigation.

CURATIVE PROPERTIES OF THE WATERS OF LA BOURBOULE.

THE traveller who takes his way southward for two hundred and sixty miles from Paris, by Nevers, will find himself, after a nine hours' ride, at Clermont-Ferrand, at the foot of the mountains of Auvergne, and on the eastern periphery of the railroad circle, or rather quadrilateral, that encompasses them. This mountain region, more than a hundred miles across in its least diameter, was untouched by railways until 1881; but in that year a road was opened from Clermont to Brives, carrying the traveller through some of the finest hill and mountain scenery in France, and some of the most interesting in Europe, for the ancient volcanoes of Auvergne rise upon the left hand of the new route. An hour from Clermont brings the traveller to Laqueuille station, and here he finds the diligence waiting to carry him still further and higher among the hills to the thermal mineral springs of La Bourboule and of Mont-Dore.

After two hours of ascent and descent among the hills, one is set down at his hotel door, upon the right bank of the Dordogne River, and in the mountain village of La Bourboule—a village of six hundred inhabitants according to the census; but more than six thousand people spend a part of the year at the springs. The bottom of the valley lies at 3,782 feet above sea level. At this elevation the climate is, of course, variable, yet it is not trying; the range of the thermometer during the season is from 53° to 86° Fahr., and some patients prolong their stay beyond the close of the regular season (September 30th) for the sake of the pleasant autumn weather. A rude granite cliff walls in the valley on the north. From the "tormented ground" at its foot spring the precious thermal waters whose curative values I will describe.

No mineral waters that I know have more legitimately acquired their title of "precious" than these. While many of their constituents, as the chlorides and the alkaline carbonates, remind us that they belong to the great family of the waters of Auvergne, the large quantity of arsenic (nearly half a grain to the gallon, or two grains of the arseniate of soda, according to Lefort's analysis in 1878) gives to these waters an individuality which is rivalled by no other. It must be added, however, that since the deepening of the Choussy well in 1878 the amount of arsenic has been somewhat diminished. Four of the springs are thermal, ranging from 85° to 140° Fahr.; the two Fenestre springs are at 66° Fahr. These are less rich in arsenic than the others, but have iron in them, and are well charged with carbonic-acid gas. They are used for drinking only, or to temper the excessive heat of the stronger springs as used for bathing.

(1.) What, first, are the strictly physiologic effects of these waters? One might almost call them pathologic at the outset. Taken as a drink in the morning, they produce a sensation of warmth and fulness, somewhat like that of veal broth, which indeed they resemble in taste; but they disturb the digestion, diminishing the appetite, and sometimes bringing on looseness, though the patient generally gains flesh under their continued use. But if they cause indolence of the digestive tract, on the other hand they excite the circulatory system to an almost febrile activity. Under the influence of their stimulus, which extends to the capillary circulation, the skin becomes dry and hot; the subjacent tissues are tense; cutaneous affections become more irritating, and the invalid's sufferings may be at first increased. But it is in this very development of circulation and cutaneous energy that the physician finds his resources for the cure, whether of a grave constitutional dyscrasia like

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scrofula, or of local ailments like certain diseases of the skin or of the throat which are its manifestations. Not only the circulation, but the respiratory tract feels the stimulus of these waters: there is dryness of the throat and more or less constriction of the laryngeal muscles. The nervous system, too, is excited: many patients cannot sleep well at first, and feel unusual need of exercise. In a word, the waters of La Bourboule are at the outset eminently exciting to the circulation, to the skin, and to the nervous system. But this excitation, which needs the physician's care as long as it lasts, supplies the physiological capital for the cure of chronic disease.

(2.) For what classes of disease, will have been divined already. Scrofula and the lymphatic temperament, and most of the complaints that depend upon *lymphatism*, as certain affections of the respiratory tract and certain obstinate skin diseases—these form the great specialties of cure at La Bourboule. The therapeutic qualities of the waters, by virtue of their arsenic and chloride of sodium, are tonic and "reconstituant." The salt excites the lymphatic system, stimulates the mucous tract, and modifies its secretions, and, with the alkaline carbonates, acts powerfully upon strumous engorgements and tumors, often dispelling them entirely. Arsenic has long been recognized as one of the most powerful tonics known, and the researches of Fowler and Pearson in England, and of Biett in France, have long made known its special efficacy in the treatment of scrofulous and skin diseases.

What is the nature of scrofula, the parent of "a pestilence-stricken multitude" of varied ailments? It is, in a somewhat less restricted sense than usual, a disease itself: but it is rather a condition, a diathesis, which produces a lowered vitality in most of the tissues, solid or fluid, of the human body, and a consequent predisposition to maladies of many different forms, as cutaneous, ganglionic, and pulmonary—both the mucous and the serous tracts, and even the joints and the bones themselves, being often attacked. In consequence of this variety of manifestations, we find at La Bourboule a multitude of patients, whose symptoms would seem quite unamenable to any common treatment, did we not know that they came from one maleficent cause. To begin with one of the most stubborn and evident manifestations of scrofula, that of adenitis or glandular enlargements: these I have known to be diminished during the first season of treatment, and mostly, though not quite, dispersed by a second season. But a speedy cure is not to be hoped for in these cases. Scrofulous conjunctivitis and blepharitis, or stubborn inflammation of the eyelids, are successfully treated here, and also at the neighboring station of Saint-Nectaire, by spraying with the mineral waters. Chronic bronchitis, when of scrofulous origin and catarrhal in its nature, is especially well adapted to treatment at La Bourboule, and so also are asthma and chronic laryngitis, when they are of the same category.

Articular affections, such as white swellings and torpid effusions after sprains or dislocation, are relieved or cured by the baths and douches, conjoined with the moderate internal use of the water. Even scrofulous caries and necrosis have been arrested in the same way; though here, again, we have to deal with structural changes so serious that it should always be with guarded hopes. Lastly, a considerable number of skin diseases find in La Bourboule their appointed healing waters—such, namely, as depend upon the herpetic diathesis. For such as eczema and herpes, which indicate the arthritic diathesis, the neighboring waters of Royat are the better place. This distinction, a very valuable one for the consulting physician and for his patient, is pointed out by my accomplished friend Dr. Boucomont, inspector of the waters of Royat. Psoriasis, ptyriasis, and symmetric eczema are among the dermatoses which find almost certain relief or cure at La Bourboule.

I have named the leading ailments for which a definitely specialized remedial agency exists in these potent waters. It will be useful also to point out certain classes of patients who should not go to La Bourboule. Plethoric persons in general, those who have any tendency toward congestion or hemorrhage, cases in which there are any organic changes in the heart or in the larger blood-vessels, and those who suffer from hepatic enlargements and inflammations, as Dr. Vérité has especially pointed out—cases of these sorts are those chiefly contra-indicated as for these stimulating waters. Vichy and Carlsbad are the types of the reducing waters that they should employ according to their special need.

A word of caution in closing as to the determination of this special need will not be amiss. The very frequent secret of failure to make a cure at a watering place is the fact that the spring, however good, has not been rightly chosen. Do not insist, like Ahab of old, upon choosing your own Abana and Pharpar. Carlsbad, for instance, is one of the most effective of all springs for cases that are suited to Carlsbad. But I know one of the most prominent men in the country who went last summer to Carlsbad, took its lowering treatment, which was quite unsuited to his particular need, and came back worse than he went. At the right spring he could have been cured. It is only the competent consulting physician who can rightly direct the invalid in a case like this. It is not enough for him to know that a certain mineral water, a certain climate and regimen, have been good for others. He must be assured that they are good for him.

But if his choice of La Bourboule has been rightly made, he will never regret it. These potent waters, acting in concert with the favorable climate and surroundings of the place, and taken under the direction of a competent local physician, such as Dr. Vérité or Dr. Danjoy, will certainly work either a cure or as much alleviation of suffering as is possible. Though now frequented by the English, scarcely any waters of corresponding merit are as yet so little known to our public; none are more deserving of being better known. Their fame, however, is recent; in due time their American vogue will follow.

TITUS MUNSON COAN.

ENGLAND.—A DISUNITED PARTY.

LONDON, March 9.

THE biography of this Parliament will certainly form an interesting chapter in the history of party government. Hitherto we have clung to the theory of Burke: we have regarded a party as a body of men who unite in promoting the common interest on principles which they are agreed in supporting. We are now compelled to acknowledge that a party is a composite body, which carries on public business by means of temporary compromises between various sections of opinion. There is no working majority for any set of opinions in the present House of Commons, and it is by no means certain that the next general election will give a working majority either to Liberals or to Conservatives. "The Queen's Government must be carried on," and is carried on; but the old rules of political discipline are relaxed or superseded to a considerable extent.

When Mr. Gladstone took office under Sir Robert Peel it was understood that every member of a government was bound to vote and act with due regard to the theory that the Cabinet is a united body, representing a united party. If Peel or Palmerston had been called on to repel Mr. Labouchere's attack on the House of Lords, there would have been no indulgence for any gentleman who found it inconvenient to be present on the Treasury Bench. It is now the regular custom for advanced members of the Government to signalize themselves by their absence on such occasions; some newspapers even express surprise that good Radicals like Mr. Mundella should have been found in the same lobby with Mr. Gladstone and the Tories. The spread of liberty among his colleagues tends to increase the difficulties of a leader. We know that Mr. Gladstone is not himself opposed to the existence of the Upper House; he told us the other day at Edinburgh that he is in favor of a "reasonable admixture of the hereditary element" in the Constitution. But his reply to Mr. Labouchere was halting and ineffective. He was speaking against the feeling of some indispensable colleagues, against what may turn out to be the preponderating sentiment of his party; his critics are they of his own household. His power is impaired, and his personal responsibility is increased; for under present conditions, none can say what a party stands committed to until its leader has spoken. The other night, when Mr. Crilly proposed to extend the principle of the Irish Land Act to house property, he was answered by Mr. John Morley in a speech full of dry common sense and economic principle. Mr. Crilly and his friends were not extinguished: they waited to hear what the Prime Minister would say; and the Prime Minister—balancing economic principles and political facts—admitted that a case had been made out for inquiry.

The reign of compromise is borne with more or less impatience by persons of definite opinions who like to know where they are going. Radicals are heard to complain that Mr. Gladstone has made a mistake in taking office. It is plain, they say, that this Parliament cannot deal with the Irish difficulty; the attempt to deal with it can only discredit us, and produce a Conservative reaction. Nor can we expect "big legislation" from a House of Commons which is divided to such an extent that the House of Lords will have a good pretext for rejecting any large measure of change sent up to it in the name of this Government. It would have been better to mark time for a few months until an opportunity offered to rouse the country on some intelligible and popular issue.

The Moderate Liberals, on the other hand, are in a very dissatisfied state of mind. They are strong in ability and character, and yet they seem to have no influence on the conduct of affairs. They are told that they hold the balance of parties; but instead of being conciliated by both sides, they are roundly abused by the Radicals for impeding political progress, and by the Conservatives for refusing Lord Randolph Churchill's repeated invitation to "come over and help" the constitutional party. If the Whigs thought only of increasing their own consequence, they would certainly go further than they have yet gone in declared opposition to the Government. But, "after all," as Mr. Goschen would say, they are Liberals; their leaders are personally attached to Mr. Gladstone; and they have no confidence in the other side. If the Conservatives had a perfectly clear record on Irish and economical questions, moderate men might be more strongly tempted to join them; but it is vain to pretend that they have anything of the kind. Lord Hartington cannot go over and help Lord Randolph to tax foreign produce, to increase the national expenditure, and to conciliate the Irish by abusing Lord Spencer. As usual in such cases, thoughtful politicians are asking why we cannot have a Coalition Government from

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which the impracticable men on both sides might be excluded. It would be rash to say that a coalition is out of the question; it certainly is not possible under existing circumstances. Lord Salisbury will not come in without his "noble friend," Lord Randolph Churchill; the "mariage de convenance" of two years ago has ripened into a union of mutual respect, if not of mutual affection. But even from the moderate Liberal's point of view Lord Randolph must be pronounced impracticable. In his speech at the Eighty Club last week, Lord Hartington returned a cool and formal answer to the impassioned appeals addressed to him. He is going to wait for Mr. Gladstone. It has been stated that Lord Hartington's refusal to take office was due, not to Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy, but to his want of a policy, and that when the Government produces its plan, his Lordship may possibly be able to support it. But all such statements are, of course, mere rumors. Lord Hartington is not a man of the communicative and aggressive temperament of Mr. Chamberlain; and the materials for ascertaining his personal opinions are somewhat scanty.

Among the Conservatives there are, for the moment, fewer sections and divisions than among their opponents. Opposition, when conducted in a hopetul spirit, is a great reconciler of differences, and Lord Salisbury's followers are full of hope. They believe that the current of reaction against what they call Gladstonianism is spreading to the counties, and running stronger than ever in the boroughs. Mr. Chamberlain's programme has never been heartily accepted by some of our best workingmen; on the other hand, it has caused alarm among the shopkeepers, and generally among people having small properties. Again, the State Socialism which Mr. Chamberlain has insisted on identifying with Radicalism may find a formidable rival in Fair Trade. The Conservative leaders are cautious in their dealings with the new form of protection, but the smaller men of the party declare boldly for excluding foreign competition, and gain votes by doing so. It is not surprising that East London, for instance, should be stirred by the cry of Fair Trade, when workingmen orators are sent down to proclaim that "here, as in the United States, protection means constant employment at high wages for every man among our own people who is willing to work." Your readers will be able to say whether this is a correct statement of the significance of protection in America. These heresies are of course hateful to the high-and-dry economical Conservative like Lord Wemyss, but the valiant endeavor to reconstitute the Tory party on the lines of commercial orthodoxy has not met with much success.

Another cause of division among Conservatives has been quietly put on one side. Lord Randolph's Irish views were as distasteful to Mr. Charles Lewis, the champion of Ulster Protestantism, as Lord Randolph's economic heresies must be to Lord Wemyss. When Lord Randolph mounted the Orange cockade and delivered his Belfast speech, Mr. Sexton saw his opportunity to have some sport at the expense of the Tories, and gave notice that he would call attention to the previous relations between the noble Lord and the Parnellites. But the notice has come to nothing. It was found on inquiry that Lord Randolph, while willing to accept the Irish vote at Birmingham or elsewhere, had not said anything which would fairly justify Parliamentary censure. Mr. Gladstone would not give a day for a discussion which would have stirred up ill-feeling and produced no result. Mr. Parnell did not press the matter: he does not mean to break with the actual or coming leader of any English party just at present. R.

A NOVEL BY OCTAVE FEUILLET.

PARIS, March 10, 1886.

Two novels are at the present moment occupying almost exclusively the mind of what used to be called "polite society." One is 'La Morte,' by Octave Feuillet; the other, 'Un Crime d'amour,' by M. Paul Bourget. I will now speak only of the first. It appeared serially in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and the first two numbers had a great success. The third and final number, if it satisfied some of the admirers of M. Feuillet, disappointed the great majority of his readers. The exposition was amusing and original. A young man, of good education, of good family, belonging, as the heroes of Octave Feuillet always do, to the "upper ten thousand," has lost his faith in revealed religion, in the supernatural; and has lost it, he thinks, for ever. He has only preserved the high sentiment of honor, the love of truth, which constitutes the "gentleman." The time comes for him to get married, and naturally he comes in contact with a girl imbued with the highest sentiments of faith, permeated, if I may say so, with religion, a pure spiritualist, a perfect Christian. The gentleman is a Parisian *par excellence;* he is worldly; she is a *provinciale*, who knows nothing of "Satan, his pomps and his works." You see at once the situation. He is perfectly honest and straightforward; he confesses his utter want of religion, his absolute rationalism; he does not affect to feel any sentiments which he does not really feel. The girl's family look upon him with fear and distrust; she also is afraid, but she hopes that love may operate the work of grace. She hesitates a moment, and then she accepts the idea of a union which may become the salvation of the man whom she loves for his frankness, his refined feelings, his culture. She cannot help hoping that marriage will transform him; that the continual spectacle of her own life, inspired and ennobled by an ardent faith, will soften his heart and make him feel the beauty and the power of her own ideal. She takes him to the altar as her lover, and she feels sure that some day or other she will bring him again to the altar as a Christian, and complete the communion of their two lives.

This is undoubtedly a very interesting situation; all the more so that it is not an uncommon one in our country, where the women receive a very religious education, and where the men are often completely imbued, not only with the philosophical ideas of the time of Voltaire, but also with the materialistic views of the Positivist school. Octave Feuillet's novel raises the whole question of the education of woman. In a highly civilized community, ought the women to receive an education based on other principles than those which form the education of men? Are they to be treated quite differently by the legislator, the moralist, and the philosopher? Are they, so to speak, two species in one? What is food for one, can it be poison for the other?

This, I will say at once, is the conclusion to which M. Octave Feuillet arrives; and in order to prove his theory he is obliged to introduce incidental characters in his novel—namely, a great surgeon, a thorough materialist, who has retired to the country where our couple live; and the handsome and fascinating daughter of the Positivist doctor. This young person has been educated by her father in total ignorance of any religious creed. She has learned what a man learns—natural history, chemistry; has grown up like a fine plant or a happy animal, accustomed to follow her natural instincts, and to consider them as good and almost holy. And what comes of it? She falls in love with the young husband, and places herself between him and his religious wife. You know now all the characters, and may yourself construct the drama.

Octave Feuillet attributes every virtue to the old doctor, and represents his daughter as a moral monster. He wishes evidently to prove that man is better made for infidelity than woman; that the religion of honor survives in man the belief in an established church; that man can construct rules of morality for himself with the help of mere science. He denies this faculty to woman, a creature of mere impulse, emotional, sentimental, sensational. It is a pity that M. Octave Feuillet has gone so far. A woman can learn chemistry without using her knowledge in poisoning her rival. A man can learn chemistry and be a poisoner. The episode of the old doctor and of his infamous daughter, who gives a dose of aconite to the wife of the man whom she wishes to marry, is forced and is even unnecessary. Feuillet wishes to convert his infidel young husband, and he does finally convert him by the death of his wife and the discovery of the crime of the woman who for a moment has robbed his wife of his love. He believes that his wife died believing him to be an accomplice in this crime, and he wants to prove to her his innocence; how can he do it? She is dead; how can he convince "la morte"? It is only in another life, and it is thus that he forces his soul into a belief in its own immortality. He becomes religious because if he does not, he loses every chance of clearing himself and of proving his innocence. But why should not love do the same work as pride? When I thought of the title 'La Morte' before reaching the end of the story, I thought that perhaps the young husband would be converted and feel "the new man" in him at the death-bed of his young child. There is much truth in the assumption that man is seldom converted by reasoning, by argument; hundreds and hundreds of books have been written by theologians which have probably failed in their object. We all have, or may have, our impressions of the road to Damascus; we may all, like St. Paul, feel the sudden and irresistible work of grace. Such transformations are generally worked by a great passion, by a sentiment. 'La Morte' would have been less melodramatic, but it would have been a more perfect work of art, if the transformation had been operated in the young and unbelieving husband by the mystic agency of love, of suffering, by the spectacle of a great sacrifice inspired by faith, by one of those miracles which are constantly taking place in the world of the soul. We do not want dynamite or poisons in the spiritual world. The last part of this otherwise excellent novel of Feuillet's is disappointing, disenchanting, unnatural, and almost revolting. He who wishes to prove too much proves nothing. Who can seriously think that unbelief necessarily conducts a woman to crime? Mlle. Sabine Tallevant, the poisoner, is too repulsive. After having seduced her country neighbor, after having poisoned his wife, after having been married to him six months, she coolly declares to him that she loves him no more, that she intends to resume her entire freedom, and to take lovers if she chooses. Octave Feuillet would have us believe that if she behaves so, it is because she believes in Darwin and in Comte, because she knows all about "the struggle for existence," and so on.

In his first novels Feuillet does not exhibit such preoccupation; he is content to show us fine ladies and fine gentlemen, very romantic in all their notions, much absorbed by the passion of love, and living in a sort of unreal world, a world of convention, of fine language, fine manners, and preëminently fashionable. By degrees we see a higher aim developing itself in his work; his object seems to be to demonstrate how the highest social state cannot but lead to vice and crime, in the absence of a definite faith. In one of his novels, written in this new manner, 'M. de Ca-

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mors,' he clearly tries to prove that the religion of honor is insufficient. The father of M. de Camors traces for his son this programme of life: "To develop in all their extension the physical and intellectual gifts which chance has given to him; to make of himself the accomplished type of a civilized man of his own time; to charm women and to rule over men; to give himself all the pleasures of the mind, of the senses, of power; to subdue all the natural sentiments as the instincts of slavery; to disdain all vulgar beliefs as chimerical or hypocritical; to love nothing, to fear nothing, and respect nothing but honor." M. de Camors enters life with this programme, and whoever has read the novel knows where it leads him.

Octave Feuillet at the time of his first manner was sometimes called the "Musset des familles"—the family Musset. It may be that the slight irony contained in these words was not without influence on him. The novels of the second manner certainly show us very dreadful characters. The atmosphere is always the same—the heroes and heroines are always genteel, but it seems as if next to every angel the novelist felt the necessity of placing a devil. Some of his ladies, though they have not read Darwin and Schopenhauer, are real moral monsters; and it must be confessed that some of the "angels" are very terrestrial. What their faith may be, it is difficult to imagine; if they are to be judged by their works, their religion seems not to be incompatible with laziness, extravagance, and coquetry. It is the religion of a caste: it has gilded prayer-books and goes to the fashionable church. At times Feuillet's ladies and gentlemen make on me the impression of musk or of some other strong perfume; the air in which they move is laden with intellectual and moral incense. There is a certain sort of coarseness in all their gentility, as there is in a number of the *Vie Parisienne*. If this is spiritualism, give me a little materialism. The spiritualism of Octave Feuillet is not of the rarest quality; it is not the spiritualism of a Jansenist, or even of the pious lady of the seventeenth or the eighteenth century: it is superficial; it is the mask of a society which wishes to hide its scepticism, its love of pleasure, its egoism. Still, his novels are valuable documents for the history of our time—just as valuable as the documents of the realistic and naturalist school. They show us something different, but what they show us does exist; and Feuillet has often admirably depicted the weaknesses, the contradictions, the pretentious frivolities of a caste which, having no longer any privileges, has partly lost its sense of responsibility, and which is losing by degrees its influence in every sphere except the sphere of social vanities.

Correspondence.

THE TARIFF ON DIRT AGAIN.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I see from your last issue that the learned counsel of the Wool-Growers' Association of Ohio insist on the propriety of making carpet wool pay more duty per pound of clean wool, when imported clean or nearly clean, than when imported with the original dirt. To expose the fallacy of their argument would require more space than you are likely to grant me, but I may be permitted to ask Messrs. Sanders and Newlin a few questions with reference to some portions of the argument recently made by them before the Secretary of the Treasury and published by them. The closing sentence of that argument reads as follows:

"If the Secretary of the Treasury will notice the immense increase in carpet-wool importations in 1885 over 1884, and if he will further notice the yearly increase in wool importations from Russia, he will readily see the importance of this question, and how the increase was fostered to such great proportions."

The official figures of our importations of carpet-wools during the last six fiscal years, as given in the last annual wool-circular of Messrs. Geo. W. Bond & Co., of Boston, are as follows:

1880.....	59,320,411 pounds,	1883.....	40,130,322 pounds,
1881.....	42,385,709 "	1884.....	62,525,692 "
1882.....	47,208,175 "	1885	50,782,306 "

making an annual average of 50,392,102 pounds, just about equal to the importation of 1885.

Will Messrs. Sanders and Newlin be good enough to explain how these figures are to be reconciled with the above-quoted assertions? If they ever had any figures showing the alleged increase in our importations from Russia, I should like to see them and to know their origin: until they produce and prove them I rely on my own experience, and on that of other importers from Russia, and pronounce this part of their statement as unfounded as the other.

Will Messrs. Sanders and Newlin be good enough to explain that part of their argument before the Secretary in which they assert that "washed wool" means "wool washed on the sheep's back," and support the assertion by half-a-dozen written opinions from dealers in American wools? Arguing that Donskoi wool, being washed after shearing, must be "scoured wool," will they explain how it comes that all these experts and they themselves forget the fact that even among American fine wools there is such a thing as "tub-washed wool," which is not washed on the sheep's back and still never passes for "scoured" wool?

Surely, Messrs. Sanders and Newlin have studied law in Ohio, and are entitled to a degree or a decoration from that most honorable concern, the Wool-Growers' Association.

Gustav Schwab.

New York, March 23, 1886.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS AGAIN.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: It is believed that the vigorous and progressive public sentiment which has succeeded in securing a civil service law as a means of elevating and purifying the administration of public offices, will not be content with what it has already accomplished, but will continue its efforts to improve the public service by endeavoring to correct such abuses as stand in the way of further reform. But, while it is generally conceded that one of the worst obstacles to further progress in the direction indicated is the secret executive sessions of the Senate, it is evident from the manner in which the proposal, recently made by a member of that body, to throw open the doors for the consideration of executive business, was received by those to whom it was addressed, that the popular demand for complete publicity will have to be very strong and loud before the object sought can be attained.

It may be urged in favor of the suggestion made by the writer (in No. 1080 of the *Nation*), that the vote on nominations be public, but the discussion of them, if the Senate so desire, secret, that it is a remedy to which Senators could not object without betraying an unwillingness to bear their just share of responsibility in the matter of appointments. It would simply be requiring them to stand in line with the President, and be judged by their acts, as the President is judged by his. To this they could not validly object.

There is good ground for saying that the great evil of secret sessions for the transaction of executive business has been that they have afforded the most ample opportunity, of which industrious use has been made, for the consummation of bargains for the distribution of patronage, and not that they have prevented the people from knowing what sort of men have been chosen to fill the public offices. In almost every instance where an actually unfit nomination is made, the fact is published before the nomination is confirmed. But the confirmation takes place, and nobody in the Senate is responsible. Public opinion is as strongly pronounced upon the character of the person appointed as if the people had derived their knowledge of it from the Senate, instead of directly from the press. But, perhaps by a coalition which would be impossible if constituencies were looking on, the appointment is completed.

It may, however, be said that if the character of nominees is exposed to public scrutiny already, it is illogical to advocate the secret discussion of nominations in the Senate out of regard for applicants' feelings. We reply that it is proposed to preserve secrecy to this extent not more because the probability of a public and perhaps partisan discussion of character in the Senate would deter sensitive men from applying for office, than because it is conceived that in such a matter secrecy is conducive to the complete information of those who are required to decide, as well as to proper freedom of discussion. A great many communications in reference to appointments to office are confidential in their character; and much valuable information is obtained in this way from men who could not be induced to appear as public accusers. We know how difficult it generally is to persuade people to appear in courts of justice to aid in the prosecution of persons who are the pests of a whole community, and there would be still less inclination to incur inconvenience and enmities on account of a Federal appointment. On the other hand, it is going a great way to say that no man should apply for a public position who (as the *Nation* has said) "shrank from having his fitness discussed before any audience, however large." Unfortunately for the country, many honorable men whose services might be of great public benefit do shrink from such discussion, and refuse to go before the people as candidates for official position rather than subject themselves to the detractions of unscrupulous opponents. The Higginses, Thomases, and Rasins are the sort of persons who probably care least for public criticism. They are used to being discussed; and not infrequently they are found courting "the fullest investigation."

It is erroneous to suppose that the public discussion of nominations would reveal, when the Senate confirms a man, "whether" (to use the *Nation's* phrase) "it confirms him because he is a great rascal or because he is a model of all the virtues." It is not likely that, if a Senator were influenced by the former motive, he would make a public declaration of the fact; and unless he did, his real motive would, after all, be a mere matter of inference or conjecture. An illustration of this may be drawn from the regular passage of the River and Harbor Bill, which is universally recognized as a grand log-rolling scheme; and yet, notwithstanding the public debate on it, no member of Congress is ever betrayed into a confession of the impurity of his motives. The bill goes through because the sentiment in favor of better government has not yet grown strong enough to overcome the seductive and enfeebling influence which an appropriation exerts on a large mass of voters.

With respect to the public offices, the case is different. The office-seeking class is comparatively small; and against those who would scramble into place in the old-fashioned way stands a large body of intelligent, vigorous men, representing a potential force of conviction which few Senators could afford to disregard, if they were made responsible, by an open vote taken by yeas and nays, for their action in reference

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to nominations. The secret session might still be resorted to for the purpose of discussing the character of candidates. For daily experience shows that such secrecy does not prevent the people from knowing when an unfit man is nominated and confirmed; while it doubtless often enables the Senate to act intelligently, without needlessly and unjustly exposing applicants to inconsiderate and injurious discussions. J. B. M.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1886.

FEDERAL COURTS AND STATE RESISTANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your No. 1076, page 121, appears the following statement: "Until the present time the United States has never been victorious in its judiciary department over a State determined to defy it." At least one case has occurred in the history of the United States where a national court has imposed its will upon the legal, civil, and military authorities of a powerful State. On the 25th day of March, 1809, the Marshal of the United States District Court of the District of Pennsylvania appeared to serve a process of arrest in the so-called Olmstead case, upon a Mrs. Sergeant in Philadelphia. He was stopped by two guards with fixed bayonets, under command of General Bright, who was acting under the orders of Governor Snyder, backed up by special acts of the Legislature. The Marshal, being obliged by force to desist from his service, withdrew, with the warning that he should raise the posse. On May 2, 1809, in the case of the United States vs. Bright et al., the jury brought in the following verdict:

"That the defendants are guilty of knowingly and wilfully obstructing, resisting and opposing the Marshal in his attempt to serve [a] judicial writ, but that the defendants acted under the order of the constituted authorities of Pennsylvania in so obstructing and resisting the Marshal. The jury leave it to the Court to say whether, upon the whole matter, thus found, the law is in favor of the United States or the defendants, and if the Court are of opinion that the law is with the United States, then the jury find the defendants guilty; but if the Court are of opinion that the law is with the defendants, then they find them not guilty" (*New England Palladium*, March 31, May 9, 1809).

Whereupon Judge Washington sentenced the accused to fine and imprisonment, which was duly inflicted.

I have quoted this verdict in full, in part because of its entertaining form; but chiefly because the details of this interesting assertion of the powers of the United States Courts are quite difficult to find. The following references may be useful to any one who cares to follow the matter out: Hildreth's 'History of the United States,' vi, 155-165; American State Papers, Misc., ii, 6-12; Congressional Debates, ix, 635; American Register (1809), 150 152, 165, 168-176.

Respectf..lly yours,

ALBERT BUSHNELL HART.

CAMBRIDGE, February 26, 1886.

WHAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MIGHT DO FOR EDUCATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The *Nation* is certainly to be commended for its vigorous opposition to that vicious and demoralizing piece of legislation, the Blair bill. The support of the measure depends largely upon demagogism on the part of politicians, and ignorant sentimentalism on the part of the people generally.

If there be one principle more firmly established than another in regard to public policy in this country, it is the duty of the state to provide liberally for the support of free common schools. People who do not reason about the matter, or who do not appreciate the relation existing between the national Government on the one hand and the State governments on the other, and the respective duties and obligations of each, think it strange and inconsistent in the national Government not to share in this support. It is to this mistaken, though honest, feeling and sentiment that those influenced by less interested motives appeal, and from which they derive their support and strength—at least their reliable strength.

Now, this sentiment ought certainly to be recognized, and it seems to me that there are ways in which the national Government can legitimately and intelligently foster the cause of education; and I have been somewhat surprised that this branch of the subject has not been touched upon in the discussion in your columns.

In the first place, Congress can see that model schools of the highest efficiency are maintained in the District of Columbia, which is under its immediate and sole jurisdiction. It can make the office of the Commissioner of Education effective by providing means for its support, so that it can employ specialists in its legitimate work, distribute educational literature until at least the demand is satisfied, get its report printed sooner than three or four years after its compilation, and do all that work in which such an office can wield so great an influence and accomplish so much good. There are men, like Prof. G. Stanley Hall, who might be employed in this office, where their writings, researches, and work might result in giving a great impetus to educational work throughout the country.

There are burning questions in the science and art of teaching pressing for a solution. For example, How and to what extent can manual and industrial training be introduced into our public schools? Why is this not a legit mate field of investigation and experiment for the Commissioner of Education to undertake with the encouragement and support of Congress? In a word, are there not many legitimate objects to which the national Government has not yet turned its attention to any satisfactory extent, and to which its efforts should be directed before any such dangerous experiments as are contemplated by the Blair bill are undertaken?

JOHN J. JENNINGS.

BRISTOL, CONN., March 20, 1886.

TYPICAL INDIAN TREATMENT IN MICHIGAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In my former letter I pointed out that thirty years ago the United States attempted substantially the very same policy that is being put forward now in Congress as a new movement in Indian affairs. I showed how the experiment, which was tried on the Isabella County reservation here in Michigan, resulted in robbery and utter pauperization and ruin of all save three or four of the Indians who received their lands in fee simple, and who would still have had homes on the reservation had the United States continued to hold their lands in trust, or compelled white scoundrels to respect their rights. In the presen article I propose to show how a swindle begun among these Indians in the past is still operative, and how some of the people's money has been going for years to sustain idle teachers in empty schools, and to pay the salary of a minister of the Gospel in violation of the laws of the State and the nation.

From 1857 to 1867 the United States expended, under the direction of the President, for the educational interests of these Chippewas on their new reservation, $30,000. In 1864 the treaty of 1855 was amended, and among other things a provision was made authorizing the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church to start a Manual Labor School on the reservation. A quarter section of land was set apart for the farm of the said school. The Missionary Society should, within three years, "erect suitable buildings, for school and boarding-house purposes, of a value of not less than $3,000" upon the school farm. The treaty designated a board of visitors, consisting of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Lieutenant-Governor of the State, and a person appointed by the Missionary Society, "whose duty it shall be to visit the said school once during each year and examine the same, and investigate the character and qualifications of its teachers and all other persons connected therewith, and report thereon to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs." "Upon the approval and acceptance of the school and boarding-house buildings by the board of visitors, the United States will pay to the authorized agent of said Missionary Society, for the support and maintenance of the school, the sum of $2,000, and the like sum annually thereafter until the whole sum of $20,000 shall have been expended." If, at the end of the said ten years, the Missionary Society can show that it has fulfilled the terms of the treaty "in a manner acceptable to the board of visitors during said ten years, the United States will convey to said Missionary Society the land before mentioned."

Well, at the end of the ten years the matter was allowed to rest until a proper opportunity came, when Republican officials in Washington aided the Missionary Society in obtaining the land, which it sold for $2,500; and as that could not have been done without satisfying the Administration that the terms of the treaty had been faithfully observed by the Missionary Society, and as such satisfaction could not have been afforded if the Missionary Society had not drawn the aforesaid $20,000 for the support of the School, it follows that the United States paid out for the education of these Indians, in addition to the $30,000 first named, also $20,000 in cash, besides awarding a quarter section of land which was sold at once for $2,500. Thus in about twenty years the United States paid $50,000 for the education of these Indians. But that is not all. Ever since the $30,000 fund was expended, the three Government schools on the reservation have been sustained by the United States at the rate of $400 per year each, or $1,200 annually for all. That outlay is still being made year after year, although the average attendance is not over three scholars per school, as I am informed by the most intelligent Indians on the reservation, and they are corroborated by the whites who know the condition of the schools. One of the schools, that at Nipising, gets $400 per year, and it has had but two scholars in the past year, as I am assured by Joseph Bradley, on whose land the schoolhouse stands, and who sends his own children to the district public school. This $400, therefore, is virtually obtained from the Government by misrepresentation, and it goes to pay the salary of the Methodist minister who is settled in that parish, not over the Indians, but the whites.

I am assured by both Indians and whites who know whereof they affirm, that in these Government schools, sustained for thirty years by the United States, not more than two Indians have ever learned to write their names, and not more than five or six ever learned to read, and these only familiar lessons in the first or second reader. They assure me, those very few Indians who have learned to read and write, that they learned nothing until they got into school among whites. To-day those Indians who have any desire to educate their children send them to the district schools, and they keep right along with the white children in the classes there.

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"Do the whites treat them well?" I asked of the Indians.

"Yes! yes! Good. All right. No trouble 't all. Want our children come to school 'cause we who got any land have help pay school tax."

"Then you don't want the Government schools, do you?"

"They no good. Only keep few children 'way from district schools and draw money support teachers. We try to 'bolish these schools, but minister who gets $400 year for teachin' one where is only two scholars, he go among old Injins and get them vote keep Government schools open."

Whenever this is denied, or an investigation is wanted, I shall be happy to produce evidence of the truth of my statements. But let there be no whitewashing attempted.

Further, in regard to the Manual Labor School, for the support of which the United States paid the Missionary Society $20,000, and gave it a quarter section of land, the facts are that no such school ever existed on the reservation, none was ever attempted, and no such board of visitors as was designated in the treaty ever came up into the woods to visit the school—for the very good reason that there was none to visit. Now, will the present Administration continue to pay out the people's money to support idle teachers in empty schools against the wishes of the Indians, who want their children educated among the whites, among whom they are heartily welcomed, and where they are actually learning something—where, to use the language of an Indian who was himself a scholar in the Indian schools and who sends his own children to the district schools, "An Injin child learn more in district school in six months than learn in Government school in six years"? Will the present Administration, pledged as it is to reform, allow money to be drawn from the United States for the support of a minister of the Gospel settled over a white parish which includes an Indian school, which school the said minister presumes to teach, but which, in point of fact, is practically empty, and in which the Indian scholars learn nothing?

Here is an opportunity for those who propose to improve the management of Indian affairs to begin near home; and this matter is respectfully submitted to the attention of President Cleveland and his advisers. CHARLES ELLIS.

EAST SAGINAW, MICH.

A HARVARD CONTROVERSY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I have received a copy of the *Nation* dated February 18, 1886 (very curiously, my seventy-fifth birthday), and in it an article signed "Anglus." I would rather have seen the name, as in the case of most of the other letters in your journal. I always sign mine—sign or not write. It is a sort of guarantee when the attack is a personal one, as in this case. May I ask the favor that you will grant me space for this in an early number, and kindly send me a copy?

"Anglus" has strained his logic against his countryman. As to Mr. Waters, I rejoice at any reward or recognition that may be conferred upon him. His labor has resulted in a great success, which would not, however, have been less with a little courtesy, in return for mine in my offering all my notes when I had not the least idea of his labors, except that they were toward John Harvard. I am, however, too old to be troubled about accidentals.

Nor am I about to bandy words with "Anglus." I have taken the liberty of posting to you twelve copies of my pamphlet, 'Old Southwark and Its People. John Harvard, born Southwark, 1607; died, Charlestown, 1698,' and to ask you to favor me by giving a copy to any thinking representative person who may desire one. That which I have written must speak for me; further I will, within my knowledge and power, answer any queries which may be sent to me. In my pamphlet will be found full recognition of Mr. Waters's work, the discovery of wills, etc., etc. On my side I produce evidences of the father's work and position in St. Saviour's parish, of the very site of his home for twenty-five or more years, and much else. Nothing of this was, I believe, known to Mr. Waters any more than his great find was known to me. The "hopeful" words of the President of Harvard will no doubt (after the heat is over) turn out to be correct: "That no difficulty will be seen in the different versions, but that they will be found to supplement each other." Those who honor me by reading my pamphlet may like to see also for themselves *Academy*, October 24 and November 7; *Athenæum*, July 11, 1885, and January 16, 1886. There I leave it, hoping to trouble myself no more with the controversial part of the question.

Faithfully, W. RENDLE.

TREVERBYN, DARTMOUTH PARK, FOREST HILL, S. E., March, 1886.

A LITERARY COINCIDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: There are some authors who, instead of being inclined to call down imprecations on the heads of those who utter their own sayings before themselves, are only likely to find pleasure in a coincidence of judgment and expression; and such must be the case with Mr. J. R. Lowell and Mr. F. Harrison, if they are at this moment turning the pages of the last publication of each.

In Mr. Lowell's article on Gray, published in the *New Princeton Review* for this month, Mr. Harrison will read (in a passage about the eighteenth century): "Burke thought it impossible to draw an indictment against a whole people, and the remark is equally just if we apply it to a century."

In Mr. Harrison's essay, "A Few Words about the Eighteenth Century," published in a volume this month, Mr. Lowell will read: "Invectives against a century are even more unprofitable than indictments against a nation."

Again, Mr. Harrison will read on another page: "Perhaps even our own age, with its marvels of applied science that have made the world more prosily comfortable, will loom less gigantic than now through the prospective of the future. Perhaps it will even be found that the telephone, of which we are so proud, cannot carry human speech so far as Homer and Plato have contrived to carry it with their simple appliances."

Mr. Lowell will read, in "A Few Words about the Nineteenth Century": "It is worth a few minutes' thought to ask, What is the exact effect upon *civilization*, in the widest and highest sense of that term, of this marvellous multiplication of mechanical appliance to life? . . . Is an age which abounds in countless inventions thereby alone placed head and shoulders above all the ages since historical times began?" And on another page (in the essay on "The Choice of Books") he will find: "Telephones, microphones, pantoscopes, steam presses, and ubiquity-engines in general may, after all, leave the poor human brain, panting and throbbing under the strain of its appliances, no bigger and no stronger than the brains of the men who heard Moses speak, and saw Aristotle and Archimedes pondering over a few worn rolls of crabbed manuscript."

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March 22, 1886.

COBBLING EXTRAORDINARY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In view of the numerous and startling expositions of the ignorance and the peculiar methods of translators from foreign languages which have been made during the last year, it is surprising that more discrimination is not used in the matter. Some remarkable examples have appeared lately, but the translation (through the French) of Count L. Tolstoi's 'War and Peace' easily takes the lead. Repeated remonstrances have been made against this double translation. It can never be successful; and it is to be regretted that, now that Turgeneff is dead, Count Tolstoi should have been selected as the victim of an attempt to achieve the impossible. I quite agree with Henry Gréville that, bad as are most French translations of Turgeneff, Tolstoi suffers infinitely more by the process. A very slight examination will convince the most sceptical that the American version of his novel is not true to the French; and the French is almost equally unreliable. This unfortunate result is due, in part, to ignorance of French on the part of both translators, as well as to carelessness, but chiefly to the headlong manner in which the version offered to the American public by two houses has been prepared, in which everything—sense, accuracy, and style—has been sacrificed to speed.

"The style is the man"; yet the liberties which have been taken with Tolstoi's style are innumerable. Would it be fair to Victor Hugo to translate him into pompous Johnsonese, or to Johnson to convert him into crisp Hugo French? By a free use of conjunctions, a number of short sentences are constantly welded into one long phrase; paragraphs are turned upside down; conversation is changed into description, and *vice versa*. Sentences belonging to two separate individuals have been united, thus putting the conversation which follows into the mouths of the wrong persons. Omissions, ranging from a significant adjective to a page in length, and inexcusable interpolations, are equally common. They do not restore the balance, however, by any means. Many of these points cannot be illustrated without longer quotations than space permits. In the specimens which follow, an (F) will denote that the French translation is faulty as well as the Anglo-American. The responsibility for all other phrases rests wholly with the latter. I attribute no blame to the person who is said to have revised and corrected the work, since, so far as I can discover, he has no existence except upon the title-page. It reads smoothly enough to the unobservant, but intelligent readers must have been greatly puzzled by the innumerable mistranslations and anachronisms.

In the first chapter, the American sends the elegant little Princess Lisa to an evening party in a "morning dress," and it is stated (F) that "her bewitching little upper lip could never be persuaded to close on the lower lip." *Rus.* "Her lip was short over the teeth, but all the more prettily for that reason did it at times lengthen and droop upon the lower." Again, (F) "Helen was so surprisingly lovely that she could not have a grain of petty vanity. If she had felt awkwardly conscious of such perfect, triumphant beauty, and had wished to mitigate its effect, she could not have done it." Her attitude is more pleasing in the original: "Helen was so lovely that not a shadow of coquetry could be detected in her; on the contrary, she seemed conscience-stricken at her undisputed, too powerful and triumphant beauty; she seemed to wish to lessen the effect of her loveliness, but was unable to do so." A good specimen of interpolation occurs here: (F) "Nay, he would have given a handsome sum never to see or hear one of them again, his wife included." "Tell that to the marines" is another elegant addition. The phrase is used by Anthony Trollope's vulgar Duchess Glencora, but not by Count Tolstoi. Another is: "It will all melt through our fingers, and then whose fault

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is it?" *Fits* is a favorite expression of the Anglo-American translator, to represent a laugh of any kind. Not content with rendering "laughing heartily" by "such a fit of laughter as almost choked him," she interpolates it in this form: "In spite of herself, she, too, was in fits of laughing." These must suffice as instances of the numberless unwarranted additions to the text, which certainly are no improvement.

(F) "The ruthless glass showed her only a sharp, unattractive face." *Rus.* "As is the case with most people, her face assumed a strained, unnatural, stupid expression as soon as she looked in the glass." (F) "It is the morning drum, the sun is risen," is offered as the equivalent of "Not yet had the sun flushed the sky with dawn"; "evergreens" for "flowers"; "plaster" for "marble"; "Sonia went on crying" for "Sonia stopped crying"; "Cossacks" for "Croats"; "a helpless idiot" for "a lazy man"; "an indifferent shrug" for "a wave of the hand." "Captain," or "company commander," is translated indifferently "major" or "sergeant-major"; which reminds one of the drum-major's wife who begged her friend not to be so dreadfully ceremonious as to address her by that long title, since "Mrs. Major" would suit her just as well. Ignorance of the fact that Michael (diminutive Mishka) is the Russian name for bear, corresponding to Bruin, leads the American to transform that animal into a human being, and "Come, let Mishka alone," changes to "No, no, Michka, let them alone." "I never think" is the startling statement evolved out of "I never think of them"; and "he betrayed some strongly controlled emotion," out of "he had the air of a man who was not much interested in the conversation of the two ladies." Princess Marie is represented as playing a sonata by (F) Dreyschock in 1804. Dreyschock was not born until 1818. It should read Dussek, who was a favorite composer of the period. "Bonaparte was a trumpery little Frenchman whose success was due to the fact that there were no longer any Potemkins and Suvaroffs to pit against him," furnishes a chance for an anachronism of which the American eagerly takes advantage. Bonaparte's success is attributed to "the incapacity of Potemkin and Souwarow." I admit that they were incapacitated: Potemkin died in 1791, Souvaroff in 1800. This is in 1805. On page 28, Kutuzoff and the Austrian general are described as inspecting the soldiers, and paying special attention to their tattered footgear, which is the chief point of the episode. (F) "From our boots to our screwdrivers, he inspected everything," one soldier is represented as saying afterwards. For this read: "He examined our boots and footbands thoroughly." Peasants in Russia and other countries often wind strips of cloth about their feet instead of stockings. The Russian word is *podvertki;* screwdrivers are *otvertki*, both derived from the root *vert* to twist. The Russian female translator probably used Reiff's dictionary, which is only good for elementary work, and, not finding *podvertki*, she accepted *otvertki* because both screwdrivers and footbands are twisted in use! "Reddish-yellow" is translated (F) "pale as wax;" "Marie Dmitrievna, nicknamed the Dragoon," becomes (F) ". . . nicknamed the Dreadful Dragon"; "wringing her hands," (F) "half crazy with terror." Thirty-five versts become 30 in the French, 30 hours in the American; 150 versts dwindle to 50, and "a carriage which stood at the door" is multiplied into (F) "a long line of carriages gave his word the lie." On page 34, we find this ridiculous sentence: "The little man looked as usual—snub-nosed and black-haired." Was he in the habit of transforming himself into a Roman-nosed blonde every now and then? The American would lead one to think so, for a little later she makes him red-haired. At first sight this is suggestive of the frugal woman in 'Handy Andy' who said she had had her old black silk dress dyed crimson. Investigation shows that, like the first sentence, this is due to carelessness, and that the red-haired man was named Dementieff. "Vaska Denissoff's snub-nosed, black-whiskered face, and the whole of his compact little figure, . . . was exactly the same as usual." This is sensible and simple: he did not shrink and turn pale under fire like the men who have just been described.

On the same page an extraordinary military manœuvre is executed. *Rus.* "Denissoff took up his position at the end of the bridge and watched his squadron as it approached. The sound of hoofs was audible on the planks of the bridge, as though many horses were galloping, and the squadron, . . . deploying upon the bridge by fours, began its march to the other side." *American:* "Denissof . . . watched his men pass by four abreast. . . . The whole squadron formed to pass to the other side." According to this, it will be perceived that the regiment passed Denissoff, turned and marched back over the bridge, which was immediately burned behind it, leaving it to the tender mercy of the enemy on the shore which had just been evacuated! Count Tolstoi now advocates the doctrine of non-resistance to evil; but he was a gallant and able soldier in former days, and when he learns what an astounding bit of strategy has been attributed to him—in connection with other imbecilities which are but faintly outlined above—he will probably renounce that doctrine long enough to visit New York armed like the traditional brigand. He may derive a profound and holy joy from cobbling shoes, but such unpardonable cobbling of his brains by incompetent and careless persons will be likely to awaken some other sentiment in his breast, as it does in the breasts of those who can read Russian, and who have been inspired with something like a warm personal affection for the man who can write such books. All the delicate touches which show the artist's hand have been ruthlessly eliminated from this translation. Instead of dainty portraits of people whose every word and movement disclose their several characters in clear, true outlines, we have something more nearly approaching the comic-valentine order of art.

"Owen Meredith" once made metrical versions of some Servian folk-songs. In the preface he claimed that their chief merit lay in the fact that he had gathered these fresh and simple wild-wood blossoms with his own hand, in their native vales. The Harvard Library copy of this volume contains a marginal note, in the handwriting of a distinguished professor belonging to the university, to the effect that they were adapted from the English prose translation of the French translation of the German translation of the Servian! Perhaps *pot-pourri* would be a polite word by which to express the state of those "freshly culled blossoms" after passing through five hands. I have not hit upon a polite word for the Tolstoi translation, and do not expect to. Neither do I expect that even the list of choice atrocities which I have given above—and which might be simplified by saying that there is hardly a page which should not be entirely rewritten—will have any effect in preventing further hackwork by unsympathetic and unskilled hands. I only wish to beg readers of translations from the Russian through the French—the worst possible medium—not to trust to the correctness of any ten consecutive words.

A word in regard to the proper names employed seems also necessary. The mongrel nomenclature leads to confusion. Part of the names are English, part French, part Russian. Count Rostoff is called Élie, and the Russian form, Ilya, is then employed when referring to his daughter, Natasha Ilinovna. Count Tolstoi's name is Lvov Leo, but it halts half way in the French Léon, and Lvovna is changed to Lvovna, which is nonsense. Pavlograd is allowed to stand, Pavlovna is turned into Paulovna. Prince Vassily becomes *Basil*, while André is allowed to remain in French. *Mlle.* and *Monsieur* are put where they never were written, and *Vicomte* is as carefully translated every time. And the French *w* (pronounced *v*) is always used, without explanation, where an English *v* or *f* should have appeared. A similar bit of ignorance and carelessness occurs in a Polish translation of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' which must be a great puzzle to the unfortunate readers. Once, in the first chapter, Mr. Shelby calls little Harry "Jim Crow." That was too much for the Pole; but, nothing daunted, he translated it *Jimka*, explaining that it was the diminutive form of Jeremiah, and used it for several chapters. Then, without a word of elucidation, he introduced Harry, and proceeded to use both names indiscriminately, as though the unfortunate child were Siamese twins! Such minor points serve to sustain a translator's well-earned reputation for carelessness.

ISABEL F. HAPGOOD.

BOSTON, March 11, 1886.

Notes.

THOMAS Y. CROWELL & Co. have in press, for immediate publication, Count Leo Tolstoi's 'Anna Karénina,' translated from the Russian by Nathan Haskell Dole.

As the American "Men of Letters" series was obviously suggested by the English "Men of Letters" series, so the series of "American Statesmen" seems to have suggested to Macmillan & Co. the limited series of "Twelve English Statesmen," intended "to present, in historic order, the lives and work of those leading actors" in the affairs of Great Britain who have left an abiding mark on the policy and institutions of England. The first biography to appear will be Mr. Freeman's 'William the Conqueror,' and this will be followed by Mrs. J. R. Green's 'Henry II.,' Mr. Frederick Pollock's 'Edward I.,' Mr. Cotter Morison's 'Henry VII.,' Professor Creighton's 'Wolsey,' Dean Church's 'Elizabeth' (who is an English *statesman* just as Margaret Fuller was an American *man* of letters), Mr. Frederic Harrison's 'Cromwell,' Mr. H. D. Traill's 'William III.,' Mr. Leslie Stephen's 'Walpole,' Mr. Froude's 'Chatham,' Mr. Morley's 'Pitt,' and Mr. J. R. Thursfield's 'Peel.'

By arrangement with the English publisher, Mr. George J. Coombes will soon issue a little volume called 'The Pleasures of a Book-Worm,' by Mr. J. Rogers Rees, containing half-a-dozen chapters of easy gossip about books, criticism, dedications, etc.

Mr. Coombes will publish this week Mr. Lang's 'Books and Bookmen,' the first of the series of 'Books for the Bibliophile.' It will be followed shortly by the second volume, Mr. Matthews's 'Ballades of Books.' There will be a special large-paper edition of this series as well as a large-paper edition of Messrs. Matthews and Hutton's 'Actors and Actresses'—the five volumes of which appeal especially to the extra illustrator.

We cheerfully substitute on our shelves Mr. C. A. Durfee's new Index to *Harper's Magazine*, vols. 1—70, for the previous Index, vols. 1—60. A great improvement is to be remarked in the typography, and in the table facilitating reference from volume and page to month and year. The obituaries, again, are now first displayed in alphabetical order. The portraits fill about the same number of pages as before, but the smaller type argues a great increase in their number. No

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amount of painstaking could insure absolute accuracy in affixing an asterisk to titles of illustrated articles. We have noticed some lapses in this practice, and also in ascriptions of articles to authors. But the work is a noble monument of well-directed labor, and furnishes a clue to far more than the mere contents of the magazine.

One often wonders how those who appreciate poetry of the higher order can come before the public with illustrations of no artistic fitness or merit. Such a discordant combination is found in Frances Clifford Brown's 'A Stroll with Keats' (Ticknor & Co.). The poem which inspired these thoroughly amateurish pen-drawings begins, "I stood tiptoe upon a little hill."

With all our good feeling toward the dawning spring, we cannot give full faith and credence to the artistic mission of Irene E. Jerome, who makes the designs for 'The Message of the Bluebird Told to Me to Tell to Others' (Boston: Lee & Shepard). The poetry is by Mrs. J. S. Bayne.

Roberts Bros., Boston, have added 'César Birotteau" to their series of translations from Balzac.

We are glad to learn that Prof. A. V. Dicey's 'Law of the English Constitution' is passing through a second edition.

The projectors of the *Cosmopolitan*, a new monthly begun this month at Rochester, think there is a call for a new "family magazine"—the distinctive marks of which, we judge from this example, are a department called "The Household" and another called "The Little Ones." The illustrations are nearly if not quite all taken at second-hand.

Mr. F. H. Wines's monthly *International Record of Charities and Correction* (G. P. Putnam's Sons) is now launched—a quarto paper containing sixteen pages of reading matter. Its aim is to assist in the unification of measures for the relief of suffering and the repression of crime, and to interest the public in them. The first number has naturally a rather miscellaneous and disorderly look, as if the several divisions had not yet been determined. The reviews deal with three books, one French, one English, and one German, and justify the title of "international."

We may mention in connection with the foregoing the new *Archives de l'Anthropologie Criminelle et des Sciences Pénales*, of which Mr. Christern sends us the first number. The headquarters of the direction appear to be at Lyons. Original articles in this publication are followed by critical reviews in various fields, news, bibliography, etc.

The *Popular Science Monthly* for April will contain the first of a series of articles by Mr. David A. Wells on 'An Economic Study of Mexico.' It is safe to say that they will abundantly repay reading.

The most suggestive article, perhaps, in the semi-centennial number of the *Yale Literary Magazine* is that by ex-President White, of Cornell, who recalls the lifeless manner of teaching the classics in his day, and its benumbing effect on literary aspiration. President Gilman contributes a pleasant antiquarian paper on the studies required at Harvard in 1642-43, in which it is curious to remark the absence of Latin, the acquisition of which before entering college was assumed and was of course customary.

The March *Antiquary* opens with "Crown Lands, Part ii.," by S. R. Bird. This paper gives lucid definitions of the three classes of Crown lands—lands in ancient demesne, escheats, etc., and forests, parks, and chases; with the revenues, etc., accruing from each. "Notes on Common Field Names," by Rev. J. C. Atkinson, is a short paper, to be continued. It is of a genuine and valuable antiquarian character, and, after a general introduction, discusses in especial the term "wandale." The next paper is, "Notes on the Family of Frenche," by A. D. Weld French—the name being held to be a corruption of *fraxinus*, ash. Mr. Folkard's second paper on "The Antiquity of Surnames" gives some interesting facts on this matter. Mr. Jewitt's "Quaint Conceits in Pottery: iii, Some Mounted Knights, etc.," has, like its predecessors, several entertaining figures; and Mr. Carew Hazlitt's "Notes on Our Popular Antiquities" is chiefly devoted to "omens." Mr. Henry B. Wheatley's second paper on "Precious Stones" leaves the diamond for separate treatment (pearls having been the subject of the previous paper), and gives a sufficient description of the rest, including amber, coral, and the ancient murrhine vases—held by the writer to have been made of fluor spar. "Celebrated Birthplaces" is a short paper upon Robert Southey at Bristol, with an excellent illustration. Mr. Davey's second paper upon Beatrice Cenci introduces us to the several brothers and sisters of this family, ending with Beatrice herself, born February 12, 1577, and therefore twenty-two years old, instead of sixteen, when she was executed in 1599. At the end there are the usual book-notices and miscellaneous notes; and here we read with deep regret the obituary of Henry Bradshaw, the distinguished antiquarian, the learned and courteous librarian of Cambridge University.

An etching of the ministering children in Raphael's cartoon "The Sacrifice at Lystra" makes an agreeable frontispiece to the *Portfolio* for March (Macmillan). Notable among the pictorial accompaniments of Mr. Hamerton's papers on "Imagination in Landscape Painting" is a mezzotint after Claude's "Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba." Finally, there are two striking mechanical photographic copies of the masterly effigy of Guidarello Guidarelli, by Tullio Lombardi, at Ravenna.

In Nos. 520, 521 of *L'Art* M. Max Rooses completes his interesting revelation of the pecuniary and friendly relations between Balthasar Moretus and Rubens. The fact that the painter took his pay from the great printer mostly in books, enables the custodian of the Plantin Museum to exhibit the culture of Rubens, whom one of his contemporaries declared "le plus sçavant peintre du monde." A like preëminence is assigned by that competent judge, Viscount Henri Delaborde, to Gerard Edelinck, who is pronounced "the most harmoniously organized and the most complete of engravers." Among the samples of his work reproduced is the fine copy of Rigaud's portrait of Bossuet. François Boucher is the subject of a rather literary paper by André Michel, and here again there are numerous characteristic examples of this painter of nymphs and cupids. An etching of a family group by Rembrandt in the Brunswick Museum is the most significant of the larger illustrations in these issues of *L'Art*.

Dr. J. A. H. Murray, editor of the New English Dictionary, writes to the *Academy* concerning that paper's report of his recent account of the situation of the great enterprise: "But I regret to find comprised in an 'etc.' the unique work done for the Dictionary by Mr. Fitzedward Hall, who, almost since we began to print, has devoted four hours daily to reading proofs and revises, making critical annotations upon the explanations, sense-history, and use of the words, and, above all, to supplying from his marvellous store of references (some idea of which may be gathered from the footnotes to his 'Modern English,' 'English Adjectives in -able,' and other well-known philological works) earlier, later, better, or, as often happens, unique quotations for the various words and senses. There is not a page of the Dictionary which has not thus been enriched by him; more than half of his day's work is voluntarily devoted to this service to the English language. Such disinterested labor on the part of a gentleman whom I never saw and know only through his loving work," Dr. Murray goes on to say, is a never-failing source of inspiration and encouragement to him.

From Charles Scribner's Sons we receive the initial number of *Les Lettres et les Arts*, the new review of whose literary merit and unparalleled artistic embellishment we have already spoken on two occasions. The Messrs. Scribner are the American agents of this superb periodical, the title-page bearing their imprint along with that of the French publishers.

Mr. George Wilson, whose address is Murrayfield House, Mid-Lothian, Scotland, writes to the Glasgow *Herald* an appeal for the preservation of the more important houses associated with Robert Burns. He wishes to estimate the probable backing such an enterprise would obtain, and requests "any practical assistance in the way of suggestion or otherwise (but, at the present stage, no money)."

The friends of Edward Caird, the distinguished Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, are conspiring to present him with his own portrait. The subscriptions are limited to sums of from one to five guineas. Prof. George H. Palmer, of Harvard College, a member of the American Committee, will receive and transmit any cis-Atlantic contributions.

The Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at its thirty-third meeting, held in Philadelphia in September, 1884, have but just been issued by the Secretary at Salem, Mass. They are stitched in two parts of about 350 pages each.

Four new maps just added by the Geological Survey of New Jersey to the great Atlas of that State—viz.: Nos. 1, 9, 13, 17—leave but seven out of the total seventeen to be issued, probably in the course of the next two years. They are, respectively, the sheets containing the extreme northwestern corner of New Jersey (Kittatinny Valley and Mountain, in Sussex and Warren Counties), or, say, from Port Jervis, N. Y., to the line of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, and from Lake Hopatcong to the Delaware; Monmouth Shore, embracing Coney Island, the south shore of Staten Island, Perth Amboy, Sandy Hook, and all the rosary of watering places from Long Branch to Point Pleasant and Lakewood; the vicinity of Barnegat Bay; and finally Cape May—this last a chart of extreme beauty, though the execution of all is of a uniform degree of excellence, and that very high. The ten sheets already issued complete the entire northern and eastern outline of the State; Nos. 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 will take in the southern and western portion. The work will then rank at the head of all State atlases not prepared by the national surveys. The scale is one inch to a mile, with figured contour lines and great minuteness and accuracy of detail.

A month or so ago we notified the discovery at Paris, by Paul and Prosper Henry, of a new nebula by photography, the existence of which could not be verified by the telescope. It now becomes worthy of note that the discovery has been optically verified, but only, so far as is yet announced, with the largest refracting telescope in existence, of thirty inches aperture, at Pulkova. Dr. Struve has succeeded in making out distinctly the particular features of this interesting object. While the Paris astronomers are undoubtedly entitled to the credit belonging to the perception and proof of the phenomenon, it is a matter of record that the faint light photographically perceptible in the vicinity of the star Maia first impressed itself upon a plate exposed at the Harvard College observatory about two weeks before the Paris photograph was taken. Professor Pickering exhibited this picture at the Albany

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meeting of the National Academy last November, on which occasion the irregularities, now recognized as due to nebulous light, received some attention. They were supposed to be due merely to defects in the photographic process; but upon reëxamination Professor Pickering finds the appearances identical with those described by the brothers Henry.

As in two previous years, 1826 and 1867, the gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society is again awarded conjointly, the recipients this year being Professor Charles Pritchard, of Oxford, England, and Professor Edward C. Pickering, Director of the Harvard College Observatory. The Harvard photometry, already alluded to in our columns, and a similar research in stellar magnitudes conducted at Oxford, form the very just basis of the award. Professor Pickering is the fifth American astronomer who has received the Society's medal, his predecessors in this honor being Professor G. P. Bond, in 1865; Professor Newcomb, in 1874; Professor Hall, in 1879; and Dr. Gould, in 1883. The total number of medals bestowed by the Society is now nearly sixty, more than one-half of which have been awarded to Englishmen.

The British *Nautical Almanac and Astronomical Ephemeris* for the year 1889 reaches us somewhat later than usual. It is constructed on the same plan with previous issues, and remains under the direction of Mr. J. R. Hind, F. R. S., who has now been the superintendent for a third of a century. Easter Sunday, 1889, falls on April 21, and the year 5650 of the Jewish era begins on September 26. There are three solar eclipses, of which only that on the first day of the year is visible in the United States, the path of central eclipse crossing California a few miles north of the Lick Observatory. In the latter part of the year the corrections according to Newcomb to be applied to the longitudes of the moon as derived from Hansen's Tables become for the first time as great as 20″—a discrepancy corresponding to an error of about twenty-two miles in its actual orbit.

—'Mobilizable Fortifications,' by Gen. Jos. L. Brent, formerly of the Confederate army (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), maintains the proposition that, by defending lines of railroad with movable batteries, a great change can be made in modern warfare, and immense advantage secured to the party resisting invasion. General Brent would convert railroads into strong defensive fortified lines, to be held by a thoroughly organized system of movable batteries, suitably mounted on railway trucks. The power of concentration on threatened points thus secured would enable a comparatively small number of men to resist effectively the advance of large armies. He compares the results that might thus be attained to the power of iron-clad gunboats on a navigable stream to thwart the crossing of an invading army. General Brent is an accomplished soldier, and there is no doubt large room for the development of the line of defence he suggests. In some cases where the country is level, as in Louisiana, it might be made very effective; but we think it hardly admissible of the wide extension he proposes. In hilly countries, where railroads follow, as a rule, the valleys of the water-courses, a much larger percentage than he concedes would be badly located for the purpose. Again, while capable of motion in the direction of the railroad, such a system of batteries would have no power of movement or of escape in other directions. Nor is it to be imagined that this mode of mobilization would long be left to those on the defensive. Invaders would construct and use railroads as quickly and efficiently as the attacked party, and the net result might be a great increase in the weight of field artillery, and the use of new means for its transportation and concentration. The little book, however, is well worth perusal.

—A Danish schoolmaster, the Rev. Malling Hansen, Principal of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Copenhagen, seems to have arrived at some interesting facts in regard to the increase in height and in weight of growing boys and girls. For some years past he has put the whole of his pupils to the test of the measure and the balance, by means of an ingeniously contrived apparatus, four times every day. As the result of his observations, he claims to have discovered a law of vital periodicity. Distinct variations in weight and height respectively are observable at three periods of the year of four months each. From August to December he finds that his pupils increase considerably in weight; from December to April the increase is slight, and from April to August that slight increase is wholly lost. The periodicity as regards height is the reverse of this; that is to say, the maximum period of weight is the minimum period of height. The experiments, if not exhaustive, certainly furnish interesting data which it is worth while to put to further test. Comparison is suggested with the difference in fertility of human beings in the summer and the winter months.

—The laws in force in Norway for the protection of literary and of artistic property, passed by the Storthing to take effect respectively January 1, 1877, and January 1, 1878, made no adequate provisions for registration. An additional act was therefore passed June 20, 1882, establishing a registry of copyright. This law, which is the practical outcome of a suggestion made by the university librarian, Mr. A. C. Drolsum, to the academical council in 1878, provides that there shall be kept at the university library a register, in which any person may cause to be entered whatever he deems of importance for the establishment and preservation of his right of copy, accorded by the laws just named, in any literary or artistic production. Such entry is to be made upon a written request, without preliminary examination as to the correctness of the statements desired to be entered; certified copies are to be furnished upon demand, and entry and certified copy charged for at the rate of one *krone* (26.8 cents) for each work, the fees to go to the treasury of the university; and the entry is also to be published in a journal designated by the King for such publication, at the expense of the person concerned. Publication as to authors of anonymous works and as to announcements of new editions, required by the copyright law of 1876, is considered accomplished by entry in this register, which is to be accessible for public inspection during certain stated hours. The law requires, also, that of every work or new edition entered upon this register a bound copy shall be delivered to the library at the time of entry, or, if not then published, at the time of publication; and in addition, one copy of every work printed or published in Norway during the year must be delivered before the close of the month of January next following. These deposits are entitled to free transmission by post, and payment may be claimed for them, except in the case of newspapers, when the publication price exceeds ten *kroner*. The responsibility of delivery rests with the printer unless he resides abroad, in that case with the publisher; and failure to observe this requirement is punishable by a fine for each delinquency of from two to fifty *kroner*, at suit brought by the academical council of the university. The law further orders that a catalogue be prepared by the library of all the books, charts, musical publications, engravings, and periodicals deposited during the year and received up to the 1st of February next following, and be issued not later than the 1st of the following August.

—This law took effect January 1, 1883, and the first annual catalogue, *Norsk Bogfortegnelse for* 1883—a record of all works published in Norway during that year—was issued in December, 1884, the delay in publication being due to the difficulty experienced in carrying out all the law's requirements during the first year of its operation. It contains 1,297 entries, including 87 periodicals and 102 newspapers. The second catalogue, *Norsk Bogfortegnelse for* 1884, published by Albert Cammermeyer, of Christiania, is a pamphlet in fine print of 105 pages, containing an alphabet of authors and titles of anonymous books, followed by lists of newspapers, music, charts, and engravings, and, at the end, by a classified index, prepared by Mr. J. B. Halvorsen. The volume contains 1,446 titles, which number includes 89 periodicals, 104 newspapers, 75 musical compositions, 33 illustrated works and engravings, 16 maps, and 132 annuals, leaving 997 titles of new books and pamphlets. The arrangement of the topical index does not enable us to readily ascertain the exact number of works in any distinct class, but theology, including under this head devotional and temperance books, numbers 250 titles, or one-quarter of the whole number of works published. The next largest division is that of statistical works, 162, and the third, technical and economical works, 137; and the chapter of history and politics is exactly equal to that of educational works and pedagogics, 115 books in each. But in fiction only 18 titles are recorded, and four of these are of new editions. Eighteen books were published in languages other than Scandinavian, nine of these being in German and three in English. The translations number about sixty—fourteen from the German, five from the French, and of English and American books no less than thirty. Among the former a sketch by Anthony Trollope, novels by "Hesba Stretton" (whose name the more trustworthy bibliographies give as Miss Hannah Smith, and not, as here, Sarah Smith) and Emily Holt, and the volume of travels, 'Three in Norway, by Two of Them.' From American authors, Ingraham's 'Throne of David,' Dr. Kellogg's 'Domestic Medicine,' and, according to a note, a "condensed" translation of Cooper's five "Leather-Stocking Tales." Also, 'Our Two Lives; or, Graham and I,' by "A. H. K.," which initials, according to American library catalogues, stand for Miss Eliza Warner; and 'Tim and Tip,' by "James Otis," who is stated upon good authority to be James Otis Kaler, a New York journalist. Under "Edgar Poe" there is a title, 'The Pendulum, a Tale of the Inquisition.' The care taken to make this catalogue something more than a mere list of the country's literary productions for the year deserves commendation. Annual catalogues rarely exhibit so much accurate and conscientious bibliographical labor. The editor has marked the type in which each article was printed, thus enabling us to form some opinion as to the present status of the movement for substituting the Latin for the German type in Norwegian typography. Of 1,200 books we find that 650 were printed in the former and 550 in the latter type, so that considerably more than one-half were printed in the preferable type. Unfortunately, it is not always the most widely circulated works which are so printed, though the works of the popular authors, Ibsen, Björnson, Lie, Kjelland, etc., are in this type. But of the 89 periodicals only 32 are printed with Latin characters, and of the 104 newspapers, all but seven are printed with German letters.

—A committee of the Cambridge (England) Philological Society, appointed to draw up a

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scheme of the reformed pronunciation of Latin, has presented a report which is printed in the *Academy* of March 6. They announce that they "have come to the conclusion that the classical pronunciation of Latin has now been sufficiently ascertained for the purpose of drawing up a scheme which may be reasonably regarded as permanent." They then proceed to give well-put directions, which, however, it is not worth while to reprint, as the method is in all its essentials familiar to our readers, being the same which has long been advocated by the *Nation* and in vogue for many years in America. The subject of quantity is treated very gingerly: "The short and long vowels in Latin differed [differ?] in duration as the first and second in 'aha,' 'steady.'" Again: "Every vowel has a quantity of its own, and the English practice of pronouncing all vowels in position before two consonants as if they were naturally short, is erroneous. The Romans said *sĕcta*, but *rēctus, tēctus; ĭndoctus*, but *īnsula, īnsulsus*." This is all very well as far as it goes. But this matter of quantity enters into the earliest instruction: of a boy who is not made to hear and to feel from the start that the Latin for "light" is *lĕuis*, and the Latin for "smooth" is *lēuis*—of that boy it is safe to say that he will never be able to read Latin well. The average English schoolmaster, who probably has never heard of the present interesting German studies in 'Hidden Quantities,' may well lift up both hands and ask the practical question, "What am I to teach my boys? *ăctus* or *āctus? ĕmptus* or *ēmptus?*" On this point the Committee might at least have laid down the familiar law that all vowels are long before *ns* or *nf*, and possibly have given a useful list of such words as have the vowel quantities before two consonants made out with perfect certainty.

— It would have been interesting to American readers if the Committee had said a word or two about the method of pronunciation now practised in England. But this obviously lay outside their province. A droll hint about present usage, however, is given: "*mensa, quinqueuir, amatur, puer*, all have their finals pronounced alike." That the best English scholars have long since thrown over the English mispronunciation is no doubt true. An eminent American was taken some years ago by Professor Munro, the editor of 'Lucretius,' to dine in hall. It fell to Mr. Munro to say the Latin grace, which he did with the Latin pronunciation. Shortly after, when talk was lively, Mr. Munro quoted a passage from Livy with the English pronunciation, at which there was a roar of laughter. "Oh," said Mr. Munro, "I always use that method of pronunciation which I think will be most acceptable and most intelligible."

—Many a time have scholars wished that they had found a Stoic's library rather than an Epicurean's in Herculaneum. Then we should doubtless have been richer by some of those capital quotations with which the Stoics spiced their writings, whereas the Epicureans were too well content with their own gardens to rob the flowerbeds of the poets. Still, philosophers and palæographers find the Herculaneum rolls a fascinating study, and every now and then Gomperz brings out some of his wonderful restorations; every now and then some historian of philosophy works some scrap of the Herculaneum papyri into the Epicurean system. To this fascination we owe a handsome volume issued from the Clarendon Press, Oxford (New York: Macmillan), and entitled 'Fragmenta Herculanensia,' edited with introduction and notes by Walter Scott, Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and successor of the lamented Charles Badham in the chair of classics at Sydney, Australia. It consists of the Oxford copies of the Herculaneum rolls, together with the texts of several papyri hitherto unpublished, accompanied with facsimiles. As the Oxford copies are sometimes more complete than the originals in their present state or in the published Naples facsimiles, the importance of the book is evident, and England is to be congratulated on having a son of her own to do such work, which is generally relegated to some indefatigable German. One of these rolls Mr. Scott proposes to call "On the Mode of Life of the Gods." It may be dimly gathered from the fragments that the easy-living Epicurean gods must have had a better time than a layman who should attempt to grapple with the contents of this volume. The Greek scholar, however, will find much to reward his study, and the lexicographer a number of undesirable words to add to his Liddell and Scott.

— Leopold Zunz, whose death at Berlin, at the age of nearly ninety-two years, is just announced, was one of the three famous students of rabbinical literature, all of this century, who may be said to have created what Jewish scholars often designate as the science of Judaism—meaning by that the systematic study of Judaism, not as found in the Bible, but as gradually developed by the rabbis, in Sanhedrim, school, and synagogue, from Syrian and Roman times down to our own. The two other scholars were S. J. Rapoport (1790–1867) and Abraham Geiger (1810–1874), both rabbis themselves. Zunz, who was born at Detmold, August 10, 1794, officiated for a few years as synagogue-lecturer at Berlin and Prague, and was also active as teacher and editor of a liberal political journal, but spent most of his long life in purely literary labors. All three were born critics; their knowledge was equally vast and their literary zeal equally ardent. Rapoport, who wrote only in Hebrew, was the most original and ingenious, Geiger the most brilliant, Zunz the most scrupulously painstaking and accurate. Rapoport labored with love for his subject, which he would clarify and preserve; Geiger with the ambitious impetuosity of a radical reformer; Zunz with the coolness of an inquirer bent solely on establishing historical truth. All of Zunz's writings have a permanent value, but his 'Die gottesdienstlichen Vorträge der Juden' (Berlin, 1832), which is also important to Bible scholars, is monumental. His other chief publications are 'Die synagogale Poesie des Mittelalters' (1855,) and 'Literaturgeschichte der synagogalen Poesie' (1865). He also edited a translation of the Bible, in which Arnheim, Fürst, and Sachs were his colaborers. A German coreligionist justly remarks of Zunz: "He leads the student through the mazes and intricacies of a widely scattered literature, with unsurpassed perseverance, with unswerving directness of purpose, with the accuracy of a powerful intuition; and he uses an elegance of diction which may be termed classical, and by which he invests even didactic and abstruse matters with the attractions of poetry."

MAINE'S POPULAR GOVERNMENT.—I.

Popular Government: Four Essays. By Sir Henry Sumner Maine. London: John Murray; New York: Henry Holt & Co. 1885.

Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Ruskin, Mr. Swinburne, and others have given the world lists of good books—that is, books which ought to be read. As yet no one has produced a list of books which in fact have been read—of the works, that is to say, which, whatever their intrinsic merit, have as a matter of fact greatly influenced opinion. A book of influence may be a good book, a bad book, or a work which has gained a permanent place in the ranks of literature, or an ephemeral production of which the very name has long been forgotten. Its special characteristic, its *differentia*, as logicians would say, is its having in fact turned the current or directed the tendency of men's thoughts. Locke's 'Civil Government,' Montesquieu's 'Esprit des Lois,' Godwin's 'Political Justice,' Sieyès's celebrated political pamphlets, Burke's 'Letters on a Regicide Peace,' Paley's 'Evidences of Christianity,' Malthus's 'Treatise on Population,' Goethe's 'Sorrows of Werther,' are writings which certainly have very little in common and are of the most unequal desert. One quality, however, and one only, places them in the same class: they are all books which have told on the feelings or on the intellectual convictions of mankind; they were in their day —as one or two of them are still—works of influence; they are each and all open to much criticism, but they each and all of them hit their mark; they each told upon the generation to whom they were addressed. The writer of a book of influence may have served or sometimes have disserved the world; he may often have done more harm than good; but he can always boast that mankind, whether made better or made worse, were at any rate made somewhat different by his labors. He at least never committed the deadly sin of hiding his talent in a napkin; he has somehow or other made such light as he had it in him to give, visible to all the world.

It is easier in some respects to discern the writers of influence among the authors of a past generation than among the men of our own time. Yet a little consideration will show us that in our own day, as at all times, there have been authors both of great merit and of very slender acquirements who have exerted that mysterious, that almost personal power of influence, while there have been others who, sometimes owing to their defects and sometimes owing to their merits, have never been able to impress their ideas upon the world. The writer, moreover, of influence, now as at all times, may have the power to give a more or less lasting turn to men's ideas or feelings, or may be able to do no more than stimulate for a moment certain kinds of sentiments or convictions. There is something approaching to absurdity in mentioning in the same sentence Darwin's 'Origin of Species,' Strauss's 'Leben Jesu,' and 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' yet the three books have each of them a fair claim to be reckoned works of influence. The essential difference between them is that the first has opened a new world of speculation, and has modified the thoughts of the age; that the second is not much more than the outward sign of the stage reached in a theological controversy which has already gone on for generations, and will probably not be closed till many more generations have lived and died; and that the third, though for a time it thrilled and interested the civilized world, can do so no longer. But this immense difference in the value of the three works does not prevent them from standing together among the class of books of influence, and being separated from books which, like Buckle's 'History of Civilization,' though at one time read and admired, never really altered the course of speculation or of feeling, or which, like Macaulay's splendid historical pictures, interest and always will interest any one who cares to read the story of great deeds told in grand language, but hardly exert an appreciable power over the theories or the conduct of mankind. The point, in short, to make clear to ourselves is, that the quality of influencing others is, with writers as with men of action, a special and peculiar gift, independent of the absolute and intrinsic merit of an author's work. It were the height of injustice or of stupidity to fancy that because a writer swayed the feelings or beliefs of his generation, he was therefore only a rhetorician who knew how to play on the feeling of his time. Montesquieu produced at least one work of influence, and Montesquieu, whatever his defects, can even

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now be read with instruction no less than with pleasure. But it would be, on the other hand, simple folly to confound the talent for influencing the world with the quite different gift for discovering or enunciating the truth. Rousseau's works contain some things that are true, but it would hardly be now disputed that the small amount of useful truths which he may have impressed upon his contemporaries is far more than overbalanced by the mass of noxious and plausible fallacies to which his genius gave authority. These are, moreover, if Sir Henry Maine is to be believed, still current, and enjoy the repute which ought to belong only to sterling coin.

However this may be, all readers of Maine's 'Popular Government' will, especially if, like ourselves, they have studied our author's other works, be willing to admit that the latest and certainly by no means the least effective of Rousseau's critics belongs to that body of whom Montesquieu and Rousseau are equally members —the class, namely, of authors who can produce books of influence. His 'Ancient Law' marked an era in the legal studies of Englishmen. When it appeared just a quarter of a century ago, not one barrister in a thousand knew even the rudiments of the law of Rome; not one Englishman in ten thousand had even the dimmest conception of the deep mark made by Roman jurists on European speculation in law, in politics, and in theology. The idea, indeed, that law itself was a matter of more than technical or professional interest seemed a paradox to the great majority not only of intelligent readers, but of masterly writers on social and historical subjects. Macaulay was a lawyer, and displayed in one department the genius of a jurist. But no one would gather from Macaulay's history that the development of English law was nearly as important a factor in the progress of England as was the growth of English theology or of English literature. Macaulay belonged to the generation who had not learned from Maine the speculative importance of legal ideas. Since Maine's 'Ancient Law' appeared, every thinker or historian of average intelligence has become conscious of the fact that a nation's law is the record of a nation's genius. This notion, no doubt, was no novelty to Continental theorists, but it was, when Maine first began writing, a revelation to educated Englishmen. To have opened up a new line of thought to his countrymen is no small achievement for any author, and this feat is one which Sir Henry Maine has already performed at least once in his career. Nor is it at all unlikely that his 'Popular Government' will exert as great, if not as lasting, an effect on opinion as his 'Ancient Law.'

The book has been attacked, and is certainly on some points by no means beyond criticism. But the assaults of opponents who disagree with Maine's conclusions are in themselves a tribute to the power with which he expounds his opinions; and it does not need the proof derived from the controversy which 'Popular Government' has evoked, to show that the book has already produced an immense effect on that public opinion of educated men which, in every civilized country, and especially in England, sooner or later moulds the opinion of the whole nation. The aim of the work is, we take it, to prove or suggest that democracy, or, to use Sir Henry Maine's own expression, "popular government," is merely one form, and it may be a very transitory form, of human progress. That experience gives no guarantee for the stability or the success of democratic constitutions; that the very law of progress of which they are supposed to be the result is itself a very exceptional phenomenon, peculiar to certain ages and to certain peoples; that no careful thinker can feel any certainty how long the age of progress may endure, and that the pæans which have hailed the advent of democracy are, to say the least, premature – that this, or something like this, is the general effect of Sir Henry Maine's book, will not be disputed by any intelligent reader. That 'Popular Government,' combined, no doubt, with the circumstances of the day, has already done a great deal to impress English readers with a belief that views such as those we have attempted to summarize have in them a large amount of truth, will not be denied by any one who observes the course of English opinion. The treatise is already a book of influence.

When this fact is admitted, two inquiries at once suggest themselves to intelligent curiosity: What are the sources of the influence which Sir Henry Maine has once and again exerted over his contemporaries? What, in the next place, is likely to be the permanence of his influence? Will he take rank with authors, such as Locke and Montesquieu, whose ideas have become a lasting contribution to the thoughts of the civilized world? or will his writings ultimately sink to the level of works, such, for example (to take a very extreme instance), as Godwin's 'Political Justice,' which, after exciting great attention, has long become, not only ancient, but, what is a very different thing, out of date?

Milton and Vondel: A Curiosity of Literature. By George Edmundson, M.A. London: Trübner & Co. 1885.

THERE is no department of literary study more attractive to a learned mind, and none more beset with pitfalls, than this of authors' plagiarisms. The answer of genius has long been familiar in its unabashed claim to "take its own wherever it finds it"; but the list of those who have profited by high-handed appropriation of others' work, is so studded with famous names that one might well advise a young author not to seek originality, but, like the greatest of his craft, to look about for somebody "good to steal from," and rear his *monumentum ære perennius* on foundations already laid. Milton has been many a time violently attacked on this score, but with little effect, since the laws of the literary republic allow the imitation and incorporation of any ancient work, whether Hebrew or classic, and do not regard a similar obligation to the Italian or even the Spanish as an offence. It has been generally held, however, that writings in one's own tongue and those of one's foreign contemporaries are unfair game for such depredation. Now, Milton has been for many years vaguely accused of such indebtedness to Vondel, the most eminent of Dutch poets, but no real examination has been made in the case, excepting a cursory essay by Mr. Gosse, until the appearance of the very curious volume under review, in consequence of which it is most likely that the Shakspere-Baconians will hereafter have a cousinly group in the Milton-Vondelians; and certainly these last will not be without excuse for their folly.

It seems a strange coincidence that two poets, each the most gifted in his own country, should have written at nearly the same time on the same themes, and have toned their works with the same theological and political color. Vondel's "Lucifer," "John the Baptist," "Adam in Banishment," "Reflections on God and Religion," and "Samson," published between 1654 and 1664, afford this parallel with the "Paradise Lost," "Paradise Regained," and "Samson Agonistes" of Milton. The author of this inquiry into the resemblances of the two series finds Milton's obligation to be unexpectedly close and large. He first shows by a citation from a letter of Roger Williams to John Winthrop that the former introduced Milton to a knowledge of the Dutch tongue; he then proves with needless fulness the certainty of Milton's thorough acquaintance with Dutch affairs and men, among which Vondel and his books were in the first rank; he next reconciles the apparently conflicting points in the parallel chronology of the composition of the English poems with the publication of the Dutch ones; and finally devotes the body of his little treatise to a comparison of passages, the Dutch of the citations being added in the appendix; and he shows to his own satisfaction that Milton was indebted to Vondel for character-conceptions, plot-incidents, course and order of thought, distinct images, turns of fancy and ideas, and the mode of treatment of whole passages.

It would be impossible to compress this evidence, for its weight depends on the accumulation of instances. The student of literature will find it, indeed, a curiosity; but let him read with caution. For one thing, the translations are made into Miltonic verse, both in structure and phrase, and (while we do not question the exact fidelity of the rendering) something is to be deducted on that account. Again, not only does the practice of literature allow of appropriation from the Bible, the classics, and the Romance tongues, even to the extent of literal translation, but, apart from such direct borrowing, there is a large stock of imagery, sentiment, and rhetoric which is common property. If Milton had never read Vondel, yet in telling the same story about the same persons, in the same places, and drawing upon the same Biblical source for hell, heaven, Eden, the purposes of God, the manners, nature, and offices of the angels, and the biography of Adam and Eve, he would naturally have fallen into parallelisms; and from these, as, for example, that a standard is unfurled, a sword drawn, a messenger despatched, etc., nothing is to be argued as to plagiarism. So, too, from the mere use of such images as a ship under sail, an evening sun, towers of diamond, or others equally open to both authors, nothing is to be inferred to the detriment of either, though the special position of them in the text may sometimes prove a connection. But when every allowance has been made for what may have been derived from common sources, and under the most liberal construction of the rights of plagiary, the student will find it hard to resist the conclusion not only that Milton had read and pondered Vondel, but that his own work was fed from that source in a true sense. Taken by itself, a resemblance like the following unusual simile for the movement of the angelic host is slight:

"It quickly grew, and like a half-moon waxed,
Sharpening its points, and closed on us two horns." (*Vondel.*)

"The angelic squadron bright
Turned fiery red, sharpening in mooned horns
Their phalanx, and began to hem him round." (*Milton.*)

Or such a rhetorical point as this:

"John's shades and deserts, cell and prison shall
Change into light and paradise." (*Vondel.*)

"Eden raised in the waste wilderness." (*Milton.*)

Or even such an extraordinary circumstance as the change of Satan into the dragon form. But when there is a large number of these similarities, as here, one suspects that Milton's mind absorbed Vondel as intimately as it did Pindar. The evidence is perhaps most strong in the most unlooked for quarter, in the "Samson." Vondel's play is modelled exactly as Milton's in classical form; the time is the same; the details of the scene-setting are similar; the conduct of the story and striking passages of the thought and feeling are practically so closely related as to make the thesis of Milton's independence ridiculous. In the matter of phrasing take but one extract:

"The angel of my birth descending,
My dropping courage once more stayed." (*Vondel.*)

"Send thee the angel of thy birth to stand
Fast by thy side." (*Milton.*)

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Such reduplication is not infrequent in the course of the poem.

Nevertheless, the author has, we think, weakened his case by over-stating it and leaning too often on slight parallelisms. He does not question, it should be said, Milton's supreme poetic faculty; and, after all, it seems to us that Milton has "bettered what he borrowed," and this he held to be a sufficient defence. Vondel, as he appears here, is a poet primarily of fancy, very literal in his imagery, very fertile in invention; but even when Milton approaches nearest the Dutch original, his affluence in beauty and sublimity in imagination and splendor of expression make him to Vondel as the eagle to the wren. Milton's laurel will not shed a leaf nor deaden its green ever so faintly for this exhibition of what one is compelled to accept as a leading influence in his later poems. The volume is of great interest, but the reader closes it with a stray line of Lowell's running in his head, which is the sum and substance of the whole matter of plagiarism and originality—"'Tis his at last who says it best."

Anthropoid Apes. By Robert Hartmann, Professor in the University of Berlin. [International Scientific Series, vol. lii.] Appletons. 1886.

THE anthropoid, or manlike or tailless, apes include the gorilla and chimpanzee of tropical Africa, the orang of Borneo and Sumatra, and the gibbons of the East Indies, India, and some other parts of Asia. The author of the present work has given much attention to the group, has made himself familiar with most of the literature, and has published original observations upon the habits and structure of the gorilla especially. After an account of the history of our acquaintance with the anthropoids, from the year 470 B. C., when the Carthaginians under Hanno found in Sierra Leone creatures which they called "gorillai," but which were probably chimpanzees, he considers in turn their external form and their structure, their varieties, their geographical distribution, and their habits, both wild and in captivity. He then discusses their zoölogical position and relations, and concludes with an instructive summary. There is a full index, and an appendix contains the titles of 116 books and papers, which would be more useful if the writers' names were always given and alphabetically arranged. The translator or American editor should have completed the list to date, and especially for American works, and should have seen that the first name of the anatomist, Wyman, was spelled Jeffries instead of Jeffrys, as in both the appendix and the text.

The author regards man, apes, and monkeys as constituting a single order, Primates, excluding therefrom the Lemurs. He quotes, with approval, Huxley's statement that the lowest monkeys are further removed from the highest apes than the latter are from man. The brains of anthropoids are somewhat fully described and figured. Although never so large as man's, and never to be mistaken for it, they present certain features of resemblance thereto which not only justify all that has been said of their human-like behavior, but lead us to anticipate more startling approximations whenever it is possible (as, for example, by the care bestowed upon the chimpanzee now at the Central Park Menagerie) to rear anthropoids and observe the effects of education upon several successive generations. For the present, however, notwithstanding the existence of the subfrontal gyre (Broca's convolution), which is certainly connected closely with the faculty of language, the anthropoids do not "talk" any more than other animals. Our author's views upon these points may be gathered from the following paragraph:

"It would, for instance, be a grave mistake to compare a tiger with a bloodthirsty executioner of the Reign of Terror, since the former only satisfies his natural appetite in preying on other animals. The atrocities of the trials for witchcraft . . . find no parallel in the habits of animals in their savage state. And such a comparison is, above all, impossible in the case of anthropoids, which display no hostility toward men or other animals unless they are first attacked. In this respect the anthropoid ape stands on a higher plane than many men. A great chasm between men and anthropoids is constituted, as I believe, by the fact that the human race is capable of education, and is able to acquire the highest mental culture, while the most intelligent anthropoid ape can only receive a certain mechanical training. . . . No anthropoid now in existence has shown itself capable of adapting stones, etc., to his personal use."

Like most living zoölogists, the author is an evolutionist, and holds that "man cannot have descended from any of the fossil species which have hitherto come under our notice, nor yet from any of the species now extant; it is more probable that both types have been produced from a common ground-form" which has become extinct. There is much yet to be learned of the anatomy of the anthropoids, especially of the brain; and their embryonic stages are almost entirely unknown to science. No fact respecting these, our "poor relations," is without its significance in determining our present affinities and common ancestry.

Most of the figures in this book are well chosen and well executed; but (especially in view of the somewhat extended consideration of the mooted point as to the overlapping of the cerebellum by the cerebrum) what is the intelligent layman to infer from the contrast between the orang's brain (fig. 56), which has nearly its natural shape, and that of the gorilla (fig. 60), which any unprejudiced anatomist can see had been distorted in the process of hardening, yet is not so described in the text? The skeletons of man and gorilla, and the facial muscles of the same, are instructively placed on opposite pages, but in two cases detailed anatomical descriptions of unfamiliar parts occur before the figures by which alone they are rendered intelligible to the unprofessional reader, and without reference to them. Like the other volumes of this series, the book is attractive in appearance; but there are numerous evidences of careless proof-reading, and several passages (notably on pp. 194, 198, 199, 110, 310) indicate that the translator (who is not named) had too little familiarity with the subject.

The History of the Anti-Slavery Cause in State and Nation. By Rev. Austin Willey. Portland, Maine: Brown Thurston. 1886. 12mo, pp. 503.

THE size of this book corrects at a glance the extravagance of the "Publisher's Notice" on the opening page, viz., that this is "the most complete and perspicuous history of the cause ever written, or that ever can be written." It is but just to the author to say that he makes no such absurd pretension. He has written seriously, in good faith, and to the best of his ability, but he is not a historian: he remains what he was, a combatant. He worked as a journalist and lecturer devotedly and unselfishly in a remote field, the State of Maine, from which he emerged occasionally to visit the great cities at the time of anniversary or nominating conventions. He naturally tells more and has more to tell, in quantity and in value, of the local movement with which he was identified than of the national movement, though this is sketched crudely and confusedly down to the outbreak of the rebellion. Mr. Willey began Abolitionist, in the technical sense, as President of the Anti-Slavery Society of the Bangor Theological Seminary, and later became one of the officers of the State Society, which, as a result of the sectarian schism in 1840, cut loose from the American Anti-Slavery Society, and passed, by steps which are not here recorded distinctly, into the political movement initiated by the Liberty party. Mr. Willey's account of the causes of this separation is not trustworthy, but the facts have meanwhile been laid before the public in another work, and have not been controverted. The same bias leads him to neglect totally, after the date mentioned, the body which rightly retained the name of Abolitionists, continued uninterruptedly the moral agitation, and was most conspicuous for zeal, activity, talent, eloquence, and conversions.

Mr. Willey was and is one of the most thoroughgoing believers in the efficacy of the ballot to effect a moral revolution, despising every other instrumentality in comparison. This view was the corner-stone of the Liberty party. It is instructive, therefore, to find our author admitting "that not one-half so many anti-slavery papers were taken in Maine in proportion to its Liberty votes, including those published out of the State, as were taken in many other States" (p. 407); and that the "Free Democracy" of 1853 in Maine could not have lived had it not made an alliance with prohibition (p. 419). This points clearly to the fact that, for Maine at least, the Liberty party was organized too soon, or, as used to be said, got itself prematurely counted. We can imagine a similar predicament if the Mugwumps, dissatisfied with inspiring fear in both parties and holding the balance of power, had come out as a separate party, and, after a vain effort to establish themselves on a pure civil-service reform basis, had attached revenue reform or currency reform to their platform. Mr. Willey shows, by the way, unconsciously and incidentally, how vulnerable is the myth which identifies, as parts of one continuous political growth, the Liberty, Free-Soil, and Republican parties. Third-partyism never flourished in this country, and it was only the disbandment (*i. e.*, the anti-slavery conversion, or, as our slang phrase is, capture) of the Whig party which permitted a national candidate to be elected in the person of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Willey is faithful now, as in the militant past, in denouncing the complicity of the American churches with slavery. His profession, of course, gives great weight to his utterances on this head, which are numerous and unsparing. That necessary alliance which he affirms between the anti-slavery and the temperance ballot, leads him to trace the fortunes of prohibition in Maine until it became the shibboleth of both parties and the fundamental law of the State. Hence a portrait of Neal Dow is included among the very interesting and valuable series, chiefly anti-slavery, which alone would make this book a desideratum in every public or special library. Most important of these is the benevolent face of the philanthropic Ebenezer Dole, the early prop of the *Liberator*; and next, the fine head of Gen. Samuel Fessenden. But Mr. Willey has succeeded in thus preserving the features of no fewer than nine founders of the Maine Anti-Slavery Society.

The Chersonese with the Gilding Off. By Emily Innes. 2 vols. London: R. Bentley & Son. 1885. 8vo.

THE readers of Miss Bird's 'Golden Chersonese' will find much to interest and amuse them in Mrs. Innes's lively account of her experiences in the same country. Her husband being appointed Collector in the Malay State of Salangore, she determined to accompany him, although assured that it was "perfectly impossible" for an Eng-

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lishwoman to live at Langat. This place proved to be a wretched village in a swamp "of seething black mud," inhabited by Malays of the poorest class and a few Chinese. Their house was "an ordinary Malay wigwam," made of dry palm-leaves and boards, standing on piles, while the only walk was a mud path which lost itself in the swamp on the outskirts of the village. Yet here she lived for the greater part of six years, much of the time entirely alone, her husband being often absent on official tours. Her description of the way in which she employed herself, her difficulties with her servants, the straits to which she was often put to get food, the annoyances from her numerous and uninvited guests, is very entertaining. Among these latter visitors were tigers, which, though constantly roaming at night about their house, were singularly harmless. Not so the mosquitoes, however, which were of unexampled size and ferocity. The customs, dress, and mode of life of the natives are also very graphically pictured by Mrs. Innes. From her account they appear to be, though lazy and filthy in their habits, a gentle, inoffensive people, without a trace of the treacherous disposition which we were formerly taught to regard as the distinguishing characteristic of the Malays. She says: "I never found the natives otherwise than civil and obliging." The Chinese form the dangerous element in the population, as she had sufficient reason to know, being nearly killed by the gang which murdered Captain Lloyd, Superintendent of Pangkor, with whom she was staying at the time.

The pleasure of the reader in this book (for though the writer gives a very different picture from Miss Bird's rather highly colored account, yet she always describes her various trials in a cheery, good-humored way) is somewhat marred by the prominence given to the ill-usage of her husband by his immediate superior, the Resident. Though their complaints are apparently well-grounded, it would have been better to avoid the appearance, at least, of having written a book for the purpose of making them public.

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